



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Somali Political Figures Meet Foreign Media in Addis Ababa

Aidid Meets Press

EA0812212593 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Great Somali People in Somali 1700 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] The chairman of the Somali National Alliance, SNA, who is also the chairman of United Somali Congress [USC], Mohamed Farah Aidid, today received delegates from various regions and governments of the world at the Gion Hotel in Addis Ababa.

Among the delegates the chairman received and held fruitful talks was the Arab League ambassador in charge of African affairs, Muhammad Mahmud Ali. Muhammad Mahmud Ali delivered a special message to the chairman from the secretary general of the Arab League. The chairman also received the British and Sudanese ambassadors based in Addis Ababa.

The chairman briefed all the officials he met on the great destruction UN Operation Somalia [UNOSOM] Forces have inflicted on Somalia. He also explained how humanitarian programs had been changed to encompass extermination, displacement, and uprooting, which led to the deaths of innocent Somali people and the destruction of property. The chairman related how the SNA overthrew dictator Muhammad Siad Barre and how it took time to physically remove him from the country. Mohamed Farah Aidid said that some countries and some politicians supported the dictator.

Mohamed Farah Aidid touched on the sending of large numbers of foreign soldiers to Somalia, the aim of which was to recolonize the country. Mohamed Farah Aidid added that his arrival in Ethiopia is to participate in discussions among Somalis to determine their future. He added that he had not met some of the Somali leaders over the past five months, during which time UNOSOM forces launched unprovoked attacks on the Somali people.

The leader of the SNA, who is also the chairman of USC, stated that UNOSOM's so-called humanitarian meeting was nothing but a misuse of the name of the Somali people, and said the reasons why the SNA boycotted the meeting were: 1) UNOSOM still holds in prison Somali citizens who it abducted from their homes; 2) there is direct interference in the internal affairs of Somalia, where people with no legitimate rights have started forming so-called district and regional assemblies; 3) UNOSOM's interference in the judicial system of Somalia; 4) the formation of a police force to implement its colonial interests; 5) the embezzlement of enormous funds meant humanitarian assistance, and their diversion to military use; 6) UNOSOM's deliberate withholding of humanitarian assistance from regions which support the SNA. UNOSOM did not carry out any project in the country [as heard].

Finally, the leader of the SNA, Mohamed Farah Aidid, urged the leaders he met to strive to amend Resolution 814, repeal UNOSOM's authority, Resolution 865, which withholds Somalis' rights to determine their future, and to amend item seven of the UN operation in Somalia to item six which confines UNOSOM to humanitarian assistance only [as heard].

Since UNOSOM has deviated from humanitarian assistance, we want all assistance to be channeled through relief agencies and NGOs [sentence as heard].

All the officials the chairman met promised to convey to their organizations and governments the information they received from Mohamed Farah Aidid. They also said that it is imperative to allow Somalis to meet and determine the destiny of their country and form a national Somali government.

The officials further promised that their countries will fully support the Somali people. The meetings, which were held in a cordial atmosphere, were attended by the vice chairmen of the SNA, who are the chairmen of the Somali Democratic Movement [SDM] and Somali Salvation National Movement [SSNM], Mohamed Noor Aliyow and 'Abd-al-Aziz Shaykh Muhammad, and the SNA's representative in Kenya, 'Abd-al-Latif Muhammad Amin.

Threat of Aidid's Arrest

PM0812155793 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 6 Dec 93 pp 1, 4

[Ali Musa report: "Morgan: I Will Arrest Aidid; Jays Is an Ethiopian Refugee"]

[Text] Addis Ababa—General Mohamed Sa'id Harasi, brother-in-law of ousted Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre and known as "Morgan," has threatened to arrest Gen. Mohamed Farah Aidid, leader of the Somali National Alliance, if he resumes the war in his country. He described Colonel Ahmed Omar Jays, Aidid's main ally, as an Ethiopian refugee who has no right to fight in Somalia.

In an interview with AL-HAYAH in Addis Ababa, where he is taking part in the Somali peace talks, Morgan admitted that it was Gen. Aidid who had toppled his brother-in-law, Siad Barre.

Morgan denied accusations that he is a supporter of Siad Barre trying to restore his line to the country. He said that those leveling accusations at him "were themselves ministers and deputies in the Barre regime."

He stressed that no one can impose restrictions on his participation in any national conference on Somalia. However, he acknowledged that the UNOSOM-2 had prevented him from entering Chisimayu, capital of southern Somalia. Morgan's forces had defeated the forces of Col. Jays, leader of the Somali Nationalist Movement and member of the Somali National Alliance led by Aidid, in fierce fighting in Chisimayu in May.

Morgan said: "I was alarmed because I received the same treatment which Col. Jays received from UNOSOM-2 forces, and Jays has no right to fight in Somalia, especially as he is a refugee. He was born in southern Ogaden, which now belongs to Ethiopia."

Morgan defended his role in the war he launched against northern Somalia when he was commander of the northern zone in the days of Siad Barre. During that war thousands of northerners were killed and their capital, Hargeysa, and most northern cities were destroyed. He said: "I was fighting against traitors seeking to fragment the Somalis' unity. The clear proof of their secessionist policy emerged after the Siad Barre regime was toppled and they announced the establishment of the so-called independent Somaliland Republic."

OAU Welcomes South African Transitional Executive Council

MB0812120293 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1002 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Cairo Dec 8 SAPA—The Organisation for Africa, Unity [OAU] on Tuesday night expressed concern at the Freedom Alliance's alleged intention to plunge Africa into civil war, Zimbabwe's ZIANA news agency reported.

Speaking on behalf of the 11 heads of state and governments at the mini-summit in Cairo, OAU Secretary-General Salim Ahmed Salim also expressed satisfaction at the setting up of the Transitional Executive Council and called on all South Africans to refrain from acts of violence and participate in the forthcoming election in a peaceful manner. He said the leaders had decided to strengthen the OAU's presence in South Africa until elections were held in April next year. He called on OAU member states to contribute towards a fund that would enable all South Africans to participate in the election.

Pan-African Congress Reschedules Meeting

AB0812141493 Dakar PANA in English 1128 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] Kampala, 7 Dec (PANA)—The Pan-African Congress which was due to start in the Ugandan capital, Kampala, on Sunday [12 December] has been rescheduled and will now take place at the same venue in April 1994. The rescheduling was announced at a news conference in Kampala on Tuesday by the chairman, Colonel Kahinda Otafiire, who said the meeting will now take place from 3 to 8 April 1994.

He attributed the change of date to flight booking problems and other logistical difficulties encountered in marking travel arrangements for the large number of delegates who were billed to attend the meeting. Otafiire said it would have been difficult for a majority of delegates, particularly from the Caribbean, the United States, Canada, the Pacific and South America to arrive in time for the congress.

He said the desire to have a representative congress made the rescheduling a necessity adding that he persuaded the international preparatory committee (IPC) to reschedule the congress. The decision, he said, was taken with a sense of responsibility.

The theme of the congress is, "Pan Africanism Facing the Future in Unity, Social Progress and Democracy." The main objectives are the abolition of exploitation, oppression, and abuse of Africans and peoples of African origin on the continent and in the diaspora, by the forces of neo-colonialism and imperialism.

Delegates from government and opposition both in Africa and the diaspora, academicians, trade unionists, and other leading personalities were expected at the congress. At least four heads of state had confirmed participation in the rescheduled congress.

Pan-Africanism is an ideology emphasizing the unity and individuality of the African people.

The first congress was held in 1919 in Paris, France and the 6th was held in Tanzania in 1974 where participants discussed global ideological and political struggles of the period and their manifestation within the pan-African world.

Gabon

Opposition Urges Calm as Protests Mount Over Election

AB0812190593 Paris AFP in English 1753 GMT
8 Dec 93

[Text] Libreville, Dec 8 (AFP)—Opposition leaders called on their demonstrating supporters for calm Wednesday [8 December] as police patrolled Libreville streets in strength as Gabon waited to hear who had won a presidential election.

The front-runners after Sunday's first multi-party poll were the incumbent head of state, Omar Bongo, and his main rival, Paul Mba Abessole, according to provisional results.

The opposition at first broadcast a message on its station Radio Liberte to cancel a march from the outskirts to the city centre, planned as a protest against alleged electoral fraud.

But after counter-appeals were broadcast some 3,000 supporters of various presidential hopefuls, according to police estimates, gathered in the working-class Carrefour Rio district to march "against the Bongo dictatorship" and "to make the government give way."

They were joined by Abessole, lying second to Bongo in the election, and some other candidates, as well as opposition movement officials who urged the crowd to behave and deployed stewards to keep trouble-makers away in a bid to prevent a repetition of Tuesday's unrest.

The former National Assembly Speaker Jules Aristide Bourdes-Ogoulguende, who stood in the poll but has since begun emerging as Abessole's right-hand man, called for "order and discipline" from the crowd.

Police said there was little trouble after the demonstration, apart from a few incidents of vandalism by "hooligans".

Nonetheless, taxis, the only public transport here, stayed off the streets, stores and markets stayed shut, and even street vendors disappeared. Police stopped cars and searched them at the southern entry point to the capital.

Tuesday afternoon and night saw stone-throwing throughout the town, with white car drivers often the target. Both police and demonstrators set up barricades against traffic.

With partial results in from the provinces, Bongo, Gabon's president since 1967, was in the lead, Antoine Mboumbou Miyakou, the minister of territorial administration and chairman of the national electoral commission, said on television.

But with more than one-third of the electorate in Libreville, the results from the capital will prove decisive.

On current projections, neither Bongo, who was returned unopposed three times before Sunday's first multi-party poll, nor Abessole looked like getting the majority they would need to avoid a run-off in two weeks.

The other 11 candidates were well behind, according to the initial official results.

Rwanda

UN Envoy Arrives To Meet Habyarimana, Discuss Burundi

EA0812152093 Kigali Radiodiffusion Nationale de la Republique Rwandaise in English 1615 GMT 7 Dec 93

[Excerpts] The UN assistant secretary of African affairs, James Jonah, has arrived in Rwanda to talk to President Habyarimana about the current situation in the country and in the Burundian political crisis. In an interview with Nestor Ferushabo, the UN assistant said:

[Begin recording] [Ferushabo] Your Excellency, we would like to know the intention of your trip here in Rwanda.

[Jonah] First, I was asked by the secretary general of the United Nations to meet with the president to review with him the UN operation here in Rwanda and to make certain that we are going according to our plan. Secondly, the secretary general wanted me to discuss with the president the situation in Burundi which is a very critical situation. I think we have a common position regretting the destruction of democracy in Burundi, the death or the assassination of the president who was doing his best. And we want to cooperate with the president because of his influence in this area to see that Burundi returns to tranquility and that they go back to constitutional government. So these are the things we discussed and we reached a common ground on all the points which were raised.

[Ferushabo] The observers think that for the situation in Burundi to come to a normal democratic way would be first to dismantle that National Army. What does the United Nations think about dismantling the Burundian Army?

[Jonah] Well, we understand that the army is a problem. Not only is the ruling party having difficulty with it, I think that most of the people have no confidence in the army. I spoke myself with the commanders, they said they are trying to restore confidence of the people in them.

And yesterday, they felt that they demonstrated by the security for the funeral of Ndadaye. But I think this is a matter which the international community will have to deal with because without full confidence in the army, the situation in Burundi will remain very critical. [passage omitted]

[Ferushamo] Back to Rwanda where you are now, what is the United Nations doing in bringing in the full force to enable Rwanda to form the broad-based transitional government?

[Jonah] Well, first of all you know we have sent here an excellent diplomat: His Excellency Jacques-Roger Booh Booh is here now, former foreign minister of Cameroon. We have already now the force UN commander. We have a large quantity of the force. This weekend we will have another part of the force coming in. So we are making progress and from all I have heard from the briefing I got today from the force commander, from the UN secretary general representative and from the president of the Republic, I think we are on course in Rwanda.

[Ferushamo] Aren't you worried, if they have reported to you, about the insecurity in Rwanda that might be a hindrance against the respecting of Arusha peace agreement?

[Jonah] Well, in every agreement there are always some risks but I am confident that we can tackle the situation and that the agreement will be implemented. [end recording]

Prime Minister Views Situation, Impact of Burundian Events

BR0612153793 Brussels LE SOIR in French 6 Dec 93 p 2

[Interview with Prime Minister Agathe Uwilingiyimana, by Colette Braeckman, in Kigali; date not given: "Rwandan Prime Minister on Situation in Rwanda and Impact of Events in Burundi"]

[Text] [Braeckman] To what extent do events in Burundi have an influence on your country?

[Uwilingiyimana] There has always been a degree of interdependence between our two countries, due to economic, social, and political similarities. Three hundred and fifty thousand Burundians have sought refuge in Rwanda, and we are facing many problems as a result. Among the refugees are a majority of Hutus, but there are also Tutsis, and they cannot be accommodated together; they must be in different places. Furthermore, the refugees have been trying to stir up our own population, to turn it against the Tutsis. As a result, there has been unrest in the Bugesera region, with five people killed, about 10 houses burnt down, and 400 Tutsis who had to run for their lives. I attempted to pacify the Burundian refugees and had 47 troublemakers arrested, which quieted things down. True, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees complained about military training being allegedly given in refugee camps. I had this piece of information checked, and as it turned out, some sort of physical training was indeed going on in the camps, a kind of gymnastics, but no weapons were involved. In any case, I had that put an end to.

[Braeckman] The Palitehutu faction has been charged with intending to attack Burundi from Rwanda.

[Uwilingiyimana] There was one Palitehutu attack from Tanzania. I, for one, told the refugees that I could not tolerate attacks staged from Rwanda against Burundi. First of all because we must observe international agreements, and also because we cannot afford having a new front in the north. Indeed, members of the Rwandan Patriotic Front [FPR] are currently in Bujumbura, helping the Burundian armed forces guard camps where Tutsis are confined. Should the Palitehutu attack, they will start a new front in the south. At a time when, after three years of war, there is a possibility—albeit a dim one—of achieving peace, this is a chance that we cannot afford to take.

[Braeckman] Will you be attending the funeral of President Ndadaye?

[Uwilingiyimana] No, I do not think that it would be safe for me to attend it.

[Braeckman] What are the needs of the refugees?

[Uwilingiyimana] The current level of aid is not enough. They mostly need medicines against epidemics such as dysentery, measles, and cholera, which are ravaging overpopulated camps and have now begun affecting our own population.

[Braeckman] Apart from this refugee inrush, what are Rwanda's problems?

[Uwilingiyimana] We still have 400,000 displaced persons in the north as a result of the war, and we are going to have to face a famine in the south of the country. The north, which used to be the nation's granary, has been laid waste by war; in the south there are drought and overpopulation. Food is becoming scarce on the markets, and our food deficiency is as high as 590,000 metric tons. Moreover, refugees have been deforesting everything: Hills are laid bare and forests burnt to the ground.

[Braeckman] Tracts criticizing the presence of Belgians among the UN forces have been circulating.

[Uwilingiyimana] They are produced by minority groups. In fact, the population believes that the French soldiers—who have announced that they will pull out by 15 December—were here to protect the head of state, while the Belgians are here to protect the population. The people and my government have placed great hopes in the Belgian presence here, and we shall do all we can to defuse any trap that they may be faced with, so that they can stay and help us.

[Braeckman] A Belgian Red Cross truck has been destroyed with explosives and 11 children were killed by a parcel bomb. How do you explain this new outburst of violence?

[Uwilingiyimana] Ever since I made a speech announcing that my party would stand in the election

against the MNRD [National Revolutionary Movement for Democracy]—the president's party—the head of state has been refusing to attend the council of ministers, and terrorism, which had subsided during the previous three months, has resumed. It is as if someone wanted to slow down the peace process at all costs. After the latest bout of violence, the defense minister wanted the government to pull out of the peace negotiations. I refused, arguing that first the inquiry must determine who the real culprits were. I did not agree to break contact with the FPR, and I have not been able to go out after 1800 hours ever since, as I have received death threats. The "Thousand Hills Radio," which belongs to the head of state, announced that the chairman of my party as well as myself were going to die. So I have been protecting myself, but I maintain that everyone should have the courage to maintain this peace that everybody wants.

[Braeckman] What is the transition timetable?

[Uwilingiyimana] The creation of an extended transitional government headed by the chairman of my party took time, as the UN international force began arriving later than expected. This time, at last, the Belgians are here. Bangladeshi troops will be here this week. This month, between the 15th and the 25th, we will be able to establish a new government. I hope that internal dissensions in my own party will have been resolved by then. To this end, reconciliation and union congresses have been scheduled throughout the country, at every level.

Zaire

Monsengwo Views Solution to Political Deadlock

LD0312171393 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 3 Dec 93

[Excerpts] Our guest is Monsignor Laurent Monsengwo, chairman of the High Council of the Republic of Zaire. As you know, Zaire is still politically deadlocked with two governments. Bishop Monsengwo of Kisangani remains one of the few men who could find a solution to the crisis. Christophe Boisbouvier first asked him whether he thinks a solution is possible in the near future:

[Begin recording] [Monsengwo] There is hope for a solution. A solution cannot be other than the rapid signing of a document governing the transition period accepted by everybody.

[Boisbouvier] What is the obstacle today?

[Monsengwo] I think the only obstacle today is the designation of the prime minister. As you know, the Sacred Union opposition and its allies support the candidature of Prime Minister Etienne Tshisekedi, or rather keeping him in his post, provided that he reshuffles his government, introducing personalities of the opposition, while the others wish another personality of the opposition to be put forward.

[Boisbouvier] Does a compromise mean a third man?

[Monsengwo] A compromise does not necessarily mean a third man, a compromise means a personality who would be put forward as a result of negotiations and on whom opinions agree as a result of concessions made by both sides.

[Boisbouvier] Are you in favor of a withdrawal of Etienne Tshisekedi from the race to the premiership?

[Monsengwo] I do not believe it is not up to me say who should withdraw or remain in the race. It is an issue that concerns the political elite which is negotiating at the moment. One should go forward and see how views could converge.

[Boisbouvier] You have been attacked by the opposition press, which has accused you of being ambiguous. Certain newspapers even suspect you of being a kind of mole of the regime. How do you react to these accusations?

[Monsengwo] I react with a smile, even if such unjustified accusations make me suffer. As far as I am concerned my position has never been ambiguous. My position is very clear and has always been thus: I defend the institutional order as defined by the sovereign national conference in its spirit and letter, and in its coherence. This institutional order dictates that at the moment the only government I recognize is the government formed by the High Council of the Republic. I examine the position of both sides within the framework of the institutional order defined by the sovereign national conference and not within any other framework. The head of state should keep out of the fray so that he does not undermine the image or symbol of the nation he represents during the transition period.

[Boisbouvier] Do you mean to say that President Mobutu should ease the pressure he exercises upon the negotiators?

[Monsengwo] As a state institution, the president of the republic is not normally a party to the negotiations. He therefore should separate his position as head of state from his position as leader of the opposition. It is difficult for him to do so but it is absolutely necessary that he separates the two. He should, thanks to his moral authority, allow a breakthrough in the current situation. [passage omitted: Tshisekedi and Mobutu represent two different visions; calls for flexibility; has nobody in mind as a compromise candidate for the premiership].

[Boisbouvier] Could you be the compromise candidate yourself?

[Monsengwo] It is absolutely out of the question that I should be considered. I went to the national conference to help reconcile the Zairean people with regard to defining a project of society together. I agreed to continue to chair the High Council of the Republic without any desire to stand for any political position. This in fact is one of the conditions I laid down, that is, I would never be asked to stand for a political position.

[Boisbouvier] The Vatican did not appreciate your political activity last year. Do you enjoy the consent of the Pope today with regard to allowing you to pursue your activity as chairman of the High Council of the Republic?

[Monsengwo] I think it is desirable that everybody knows that accepting this role is not something I did spontaneously against the pontifical authority. The only person to whom I have pledged to obey here on earth is the Holy Father. If the Holy Father had expressed his objection to me assuming this role, I would never have assumed it.

[Boisbouvier] A Zairean priest was killed last Sunday in Kananga in the Kasai by the army. How do you feel about this?

[Monsengwo] Whether it is a priest or any other citizen, I think it is time that this looting habit in the country ceases. I think I can take advantage of this opportunity to appeal to the national conscience and to the sense of duty of the Zairean Armed Forces and to those who are Christians. I say they have a mission that could help them to enact the mission of Christ, who said there is no greater love than giving one's life for a beloved one.

[Boisbouvier] Do you believe as some do that the regime does not pay its soldiers deliberately in order to create trouble in the country?

[Monsengwo] It happened in the past that delay in the payment of salaries was used for political purposes. It is difficult to say if it is the case everytime, but it happened in the past. [end recording]

Djibouti

Opposition Mobilizes, Calls for Dialogue With Government

AB0812154093 Paris AFP in French 1543 GMT 7 Dec 93

[Text] Djibouti, 7 Dec (AFP)—Two Djibouti opposition leaders, Mohamed Jama Elabe of the Party for Reviving Democracy [PRD] and Aden Roble Awale of the Democratic National Party [PND], signed an agreement today in which they committed themselves to joint actions to "bring the country out of the disastrous impasse it finds itself in." While signing the agreement, they emphasized that "genuine peace" can only be achieved through the conclusion of a cease-fire accord between government forces and the Afar rebels of the Front for the Restoration of Unity and Democracy.

They demanded the release of all political prisoners and the initiation of dialogue between the opposition and the government, which should lead to the formation of a "transitional government of national unity" that would organize new "free and democratic" legislative elections. The two leaders also stressed the need for the holding of a conference that will bring together all the representative forces of the opposition.

On its part, the Djibouti United Opposition Front [FUOD], which comprises a lot of unregistered parties, called on all Djibouti citizens on 4 December to prepare for "mass actions whose dates and venues will be fixed later on," and announced that FUOD chairman Mohamed Ahmed Issa—also known as "Cheiko"—is trying to set up a coordinating committee of the entire Djibouti opposition with the PND and PRD. Observers say that "Cheiko" is presently trying to take advantage of the serious economic and financial crisis confronting the Djibouti Government to mobilize the people against President Hassan Gouled Aptidon.

Ethiopia

President Meles Returns From OAU Meeting in Cairo

EA0912104093 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia Network in Amharic 1700 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Excerpt] President Meles Zenawi returned to Addis Ababa today after attending the meeting of the OAU organ for conflict prevention, management and resolution summit held in Cairo yesterday. [passage omitted]

Somalia

Aidid Says UNOSOM Forces 'Must Leave'

NC0812183393 Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish 6 Dec 93 p 4

["Text" of an exclusive interview with General Mohammed Farah Aidid by MILLIYET correspondent Ali H. Yurtsever in Mogadishu; date not given]

[Text] [Yurtsever] Are you opposed to the UN organization?

[Aidid] We say that UNOSOM [United Nations Operation in Somalia] must leave, including the U.S. troops. We are not opposed to the UN organization, but we are opposed to the way the military units operate in this country. Somalia's people do not accept their presence and operations in their country. UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali behaves like a dictator. He wants only his views to be accepted. He does not seek reconciliation with the opposite side. Peace cannot be established if he maintains his approach. The United States has caused the deaths of thousands of people in Somalia. That is genocide. The United States may have interests in Africa. We are not opposed to the regional U.S. interests in Africa and Somalia, but we expect the U.S. officials to establish and maintain a favorable dialogue with Somalia's leaders.

[Yurtsever] The United States can control all Africa if it keeps its military units in Somalia. Do you agree?

[Aidid] The U.S. officials have not told us what they want or what they are interested in. They have not even bothered to ask our opinion. I do not believe the United States is greatly interested in Somalia.

[Yurtsever] Since you are opposed to UNOSOM and the United States, the war will continue, won't it?

[Aidid] The war will continue and peace will not be established as long as UNOSOM stays in this country. We prefer military units from the African countries, like Kenya, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, and Botswana. We can solve our problems with them more easily. Somalia's neighbors can be more helpful. We declared a unilateral cease-fire in the middle of November. It has occasionally been violated. Arms have been used because of provocations by the U.S. troops. Somalia's innocent people died when the cease-fire was violated. The opposite side must also take a step if an atmosphere of mutual confidence is desired. The United States can rectify its mistake. But it must first prove that it maintains goodwill. Unfortunately, it has not done that. It has ordered its military units into the streets. Carrying arms is a tradition in Somalia. But the U.S. and the UNOSOM units fire on the people who carry arms. One reason my people carry arms is to deal with the bandits who have emerged because of the war. Somalia will become a second Vietnam if the U.S. troops and the UNOSOM units do not withdraw. Somalia's people cannot accept the occupation of their country by foreign forces.

[Yurtsever] Islamic countries also have units in UNOSOM. Can you comment on your relations with the Turkish troops?

[Aidid] We have no problem with the Turkish troops. They have not taken part in the clashes. And they have not treated Somalia's people violently.

[Yurtsever] Two coups have taken place during the past few years in Somalia. Can you explain the kind of regime you wish to have? What is your political line? Are you communist, Marxist, Leninist, fundamentalist, or a democrat?

[Aidid] We ousted Siad Barre, who was a dictator. We call for a democratic system. We want an administration that will be elected in accordance with the people's free will. We are an Islamic people. We have had no religious disputes in Somalia. The foreign newspapers have described us as a radical and fundamentalist element. That is wrong. The Catholics and Protestants can be very conservative. But can they be described as radical or fundamentalist elements? Religion is no problem. We are a nation and we have our own culture and religion. Our population is made up of Islamic people. We are proud of that.

[Yurtsever] The U.S. special teams searched every corner for you for four months. Where did you hide?

[Aidid] I did not leave Mogadishu. I was in Mogadishu when their helicopters fired on the members of my party and the people. I appeared in various quarters to address my people and hold meetings. I stayed nowhere more than a few hours. We selected several places to hold meetings. The meeting place was decided upon a few minutes before we met. U.S. officials have claimed that I hid in holes. That is not true. I hid in no hole. I gained 5 kg during that period. What troubled me most was the massacre of my people. The U.S. troops failed to find me, regardless of their modern arms and equipment. They got lost in the streets of Mogadishu and the people laughed at them. We have won and we maintain a strong position.

[Yurtsever] There is a price of \$25,000 on your head. Anyone in Somalia could have revealed your hideout to gain a comfortable life with that amount of money. How can you trust your colleagues in the party?

[Aidid] Placing a price on my head was a serious mistake. People can inform on their colleagues in the United States for money, but people cannot be bought in Somalia.

[Yurtsever] You have escaped being killed. How would you describe yourself—a hero, fighter, or politician?

[Aidid] I regard myself as a politician who knows how to fight.

[Yurtsever] 'Ali Mahdi, your rival, supports UNOSOM. He has clearly said that he will be Somalia's next president. Can you explain your own viewpoint?

[Aidid] What is important is the decision to be made by Somalia's people. I cannot decide whether I will be the president. I want my people to unite to solve our country's problems. That is my dream. That is why I have fought. That is why I have put up with difficulties.

I will struggle to realize my dream. We will succeed in our struggle. We forced dictator Siad Barre to leave the country.

[Yurtsever] Will you agree to shake hands with 'Ali Mahdi and hold talks with him?

[Aidid] (Laughs) Of course, why not? That is very normal.

[Yurtsever] A fratricidal war has been fought between the two sides. Thousands of people have been killed. But you have said you are willing to shake hands and hold talks. Is that normal?

[Aidid] That is not as serious a problem as you think. We have already met and we shook hands. We were close friends before the war. I can't understand why he suddenly opposed me. 'Ali Mahdi and his followers are my brethren. We can reach an agreement to solve our problems. I don't believe a problem will emerge in that regard.

USC Officials Talk With Egyptian Troop Commander

EA0812173093 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Great Somali People in Somali 1700 GMT 7 Dec 93

[Text] The secretary of foreign affairs of the executive committee of the United Somali Congress [USC], Professor Isa Mohamed Siad, met at his office with the commander of the Egyptian troops in Somalia and the first secretary of the Egyptian Embassy in Somalia. The two Egyptian officials delivered to Prof. Isa Mohamed Siad a message from the Egyptian Government and an invitation to the Somali National Alliance to send representatives to Cairo to express their opinions and their political views. The two officials told Prof. Siad that Egypt wanted justice for the Somali people and would not be biased against any section. The secretary of foreign affairs of the executive committee of the USC, Prof. Isa Mohamed Siad, told the officials that the Egyptian Government's invitation had been accepted. The meeting took place in a cordial atmosphere.

Uganda

President Museveni Accuses Clergy of Corruption

EA0812172093 Kampala Radio Uganda Network in English 1000 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] President Yoweri Museveni has once again blamed the deepening wrangles between clergymen and the laity on the high level of corruption on part of the clergy. In a speech read on his behalf by the minister of state for internal affairs, Mr. Tom Butime, at celebrations to mark the silver jubilee of Lira diocese at St. Stevens Cathedral, Lira, over the weekend, the president said the wrangles arose because the laity have begun to question whether the churches and their leaders are

really still the people who were chosen to serve. While churches have blamed their congregations of poor collection and other activities, this, he said, is because the congregation does not know what the mega collections they are able to give are used for.

Former President Explains Reasons for Return

EA0412181593 Kampala Radio Uganda Network in English 1000 GMT 4 Dec 93

[Text] Uganda's former head of state, General Tito Okello Lutwa, has clarified that his return home from the eight-year exile was his personal decision not influenced by anybody else. General Tito Lutwa said this while receiving a group of NRC [National Resistance Council] members from Acholi at his new home in Bugolobi. Among the NRC members included the deputy minister of information, Mr. John Ojok Obwangamoi; The deputy minister of public service, Mr. Charles (Olai); Nominated NRC member, Tom (Wapila); And the DA [district administrator], APAC [expansion unknown], Mr. John Ochaya. The four had gone to pay a courtesy call on the former head of state and to welcome him back home from exile. During their discussions, Mr. Obwangamoi told the former head of state that their visit was intended to show solidarity with the former president in

his pursuit for a personal settlement at home. He said that on the day the general returned, most of them were upcountry and could not be at Entebbe to receive him there.

Government Establishes Diplomatic Relations With Maldives

EA0312175593 Kampala Radio Uganda Network in English 1700 GMT 2 Dec 93

[Text] Uganda and Maldives have established diplomatic relations at nonresident ambassadorial level. The ceremony was held at the Uganda House, New York, at which Ambassador James Baba, deputy permanent representative [to the United Nations], currently charge d'affaires ad interim, signed for Uganda while Mr. Ahmed Sariah signed for the Government of the Maldives.

The two issued a joint communique in which the two governments expressed their desire to promote relations of friendship and cooperation for mutual benefit based on the principles of international law, particularly equality among nations, the respect for independence, national sovereignty, territorial integrity, and noninterference in their respective internal affairs.

De Klerk Promises to Crack Down on Right-Wing Groups

MB0812202993 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] President de Klerk has promised to crack down on right-wing groups threatening to disrupt South Africa's transition to majority rule.

He said in London that people who break the law should expect action to be taken against them. President de Klerk is in London for talks with the British Prime Minister John Major. He will also meet with Queen Elizabeth. Mr. De Klerk will be the first South African to be received by the queen since 1961, when South Africa withdrew from the Commonwealth. President de Klerk is en route to Oslo where he will receive the Nobel Peace Prize with Mr. Nelson Mandela. He told reporters that right-wing groups will have to realize that their future is at stake and that they will have to participate in the April election.

He said he is convinced that the election will be democratic and that his party will be well represented.

Political Parties React to Goldstone Commission Report

MB0912064793 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] The National Party has welcomed the Goldstone Commission's proposal that the police Internal Stability Unit [ISU] be retained in East Rand townships. A National Party spokesman says the unit's presence is necessary to protect inhabitants against intimidation, with a view to a free and fair election. The Democratic Party says the findings on hit squads makes it essential for the IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] and the kwaZulu government to be placed under the control of the Transitional Executive Council [TEC].

[Begin African National Congress spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa recording in English] *This has been revealed at a time when the TEC has just started operating. It is urgent that it immediately assumes multiparty control of all police forces, including the KwaZulu Police [KZP]. On the question of the withdrawal of the Internal Stability Unit it is regrettable that Justice Goldstone, in his report, equates policing and the South African Police [SAP] with the Internal Stability Unit. The ISU is a paramilitary force that has, through its actions, come into direct conflict with many communities, reinforcing the perception that it is a paramilitary force which works against them, not a police force that protects and serves. [end recording]*

The IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] has still not reacted to the commission's findings. KwaZulu's police commissioner, Lieutenant General Roy During, says actions by renegade members do not have his department's approval. He says he had asked the SAP [South African Police] to investigate allegations that KZP members

were involved in criminal activities. The Ministry of Defense has emphasized that those involved and subsequently arrested, receive orders from the KwaZulu Police and not the South African Defense Force. The South African Police said the Goldstone Commission's findings confirms that the SAP was itself the victim of hit squad activities. The SAP says the report also confirms these activities took place between the IFP and the ANC [African National Congress].

Natal ANC Urges TEC To Assume Control of KwaZulu Police

MB0912072193 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 0500 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] The ANC [African National Congress] in Natal has asked the Transitional Executive Council [TEC] to assume immediate control of both the KwaZulu Police and the finances of the KwaZulu government. This follows a report in which the Goldstone Commission says proof has been found of KwaZulu Police involvement in hit squads. A spokesman for the Midlands region of ANC, Dr. Blade Nzimande, said the KwaZulu Police force was Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi's private army and an IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] instrument to destabilize the ANC.

An ANC spokesman in southern Natal, Mr. Dumisani Mkhayi, said because members of the hit squad has been trained in the Caprivi by the defense force, the National Party government was directly responsible for their activities. The ANC, he said, needed to know who was giving orders to the hit squads.

Buthelezi Says Hit Squad Report Attempt To Discredit IFP

MB0912115193 Johannesburg SABA in English 1101 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] Ulundi Dec 9 SABA—The timing of the Goldstone Commission of inquiry report into alleged KwaZulu Police [KZP] hit squads was an attempt to discredit the Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] for not taking part in the Transitional Executive Council [TEC], IFP President Mangosuthu Buthelezi said on Thursday.

Responding to the report in a statement, he said the commission was helping the government and the African National Congress [ANC] to make political capital. "For a commission which was briefed to inquire into the phenomenon of public violence and intimidation, it has come a long way to being a political body."

Mr Buthelezi questioned why the KwaZulu Police were singled out by name when the report did not mention the "atrocities perpetrated by Umkonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation; ANC military wing—MK] and the ANC-dominated self-defence units in the townships".

Added to this there was all the violence going on the country at present. "Furthermore, allegations of hit squad activities the kwaZulu police have been made on

other occasions and at no stage was such evidence able to stand the test of cross-examination," Mr Buthelezi said.

Winnie Mandela Becomes Head of ANC Women's League

MB0812152993 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1452 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Durban Dec 8 SAPA—Winnie Mandela has been elected president of the African National Congress Women's League [ANCWL]. Mandela polled 392 votes out of a total 560 at the ANCWL's annual conference in Durban on Wednesday, beating fellow nominee Albertina Sisulu. The 58-year-old estranged wife of ANC President Nelson Mandela made her triumphant return to the league's leadership after her suspension from holding a key post was lifted by this week's conference, in the interests of unity before next year's election.

Mandela was also recently elected deputy president of the South African National Civics Organisation.

Mandela suffered political damage due to her criminal conviction for participating in the kidnap of four youths in Soweto and last year's leaking of a love letter she allegedly wrote to a younger man. In April last year she formally separated from Mr Mandela and resigned as head of the ANC's Welfare Department.

NP on Winnie's Victory

MB0912080393 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2200 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Cape Town Dec 8 SAPA—The election of Mrs Winnie Mandela as president of the ANC [African National Congress] Women's League was proof of the militant factions taking control of key positions in the organisation, National Party spokesman Marthinus van Schalkwyk, said on Wednesday. "Up to now the ANC has endeavoured to manoeuvre the militant factions to the background in order to create the impression of a moderate party with responsible policies," he said in a statement.

Mrs Mandela's election was clear evidence that the militant factions were no longer willing to be sidelined for the duration of the election. "If the ANC wants to restore its credibility and its commitment to democracy, it cannot allow somebody with Mrs Mandela's record to occupy such a senior position."

IFP Women Oppose Election

MB0912090793 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0822 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] Durban Dec 9 SAPA—Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] Women's Brigade leader Faith Gasa on Thursday slammed the election of Winnie Mandela to the presidency of the African National Congress Women's League as a "disastrous setback" to the ANC's election campaign.

In a statement Mrs Gasa said this was particularly so "in light of the fact that the ANC has gone to enormous lengths to project a 'moderate' and 'reasonable' face to pacify the concerns of foreign investors and the business community. The shocking sidelining of a veteran of Mrs Albertina Sisulu's calibre with her impeccable 'struggle' credentials by someone with Mrs Mandela's dubious pedigree in human rights must be hard to swallow for the ANC's image builders," Mrs Gasa said.

ANC Official Addresses Conference on Election Monitoring

MB0912072393 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 0500 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] Senior ANC [African National Congress] Constitutional Negotiator Valli Moosa says that if the Independent Electoral Commission [IEC], which is to come into being today, fails to ensure that next April's election is free and fair, the past five years' negotiations will have come to nothing. Mr. Moosa was speaking at Kempton Park at a two-day conference of local and international monitors and observers for the election.

Describing the IEC as the country's most important transitional structure, he said it would have full authority to organize and adjudicate the election. The 5,000 to 10,000 monitors needed for the election would be accountable to the IEC and would help to enforce the electoral code of conduct. The delegates to the Kempton Park conference are to discuss the functions of election monitoring and observing and present a set of recommendations to the IEC tomorrow.

TEC To Possess Automatic Powers To Deploy Police in Homelands

MB0912134793 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1100 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] The conference on election monitoring has heard that the Transitional Executive Council [TEC] would have automatic powers to deploy the SAP [South African Police] in homeland territories if necessary. The role of the police in protecting the rights of voters and preventing the disruption of elections was one of the subjects to come under the spotlight at the conference in Kempton Park. ANC Adviser Mark Phillips indicated that the police would come under pressure from the TEC and monitors to be seen to be playing an unbiased role. He said the idea would be to develop joint responsibility and decision-making in the policing of the election process. Mr. Phillips said the national peace structures should continue to play an important role in the run up to elections.

Mandela Remains Favorite Among Blacks, De Klerk for Whites*MB0812160293 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1515
GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 8 SAPA—African National Congress [ANC] President Nelson Mandela remains the clear favourite among Blacks while State President F W de Klerk remains the most popular leader among Whites, the findings of a Markinor survey show. The survey in November was conducted with a rating scale from 0 (totally against) to 10 (totally in favour) and was compared with figures gathered from similar earlier surveys.

Markinor said Mr Mandela's rating of 8.7 points in November, 0.3 points up from May, was the highest score ever measured for any leader.

Mr de Klerk was second among blacks with 4.3 points, slightly up from 4.1 in May. Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] President Mangosuthu Buthelezi and Afrikaner Volksfront [AVF, Afrikaner National Front] leader Constand Viljoen trailed far behind with scores of 1.8 (down from 2.1) and 1.2 respectively.

The four leaders got a slightly improved popularity rating among Whites: 6.7 (up 0.2) for Mr de Klerk; 5.7 (up 0.1) for Mr Buthelezi; and 3.8 (up 0.2) for Mr Mandela.

Public opinion of Mr de Klerk's performance increased from its lowest ever in May last year to a marginally better rating in November this year, with 76 per cent of Whites and 41 per cent of Blacks saying he is leading the country "very or fairly well". Markinor said this figure represented a six percent increase among both groups.

When asked which political party they would vote for, 43 percent of whites answered the National Party [NP]. The figure is very much the same as in May 1993, but still significantly down on May 1992.

The Democratic Party came in second among whites with 11 percent.

Whereas only six percent of Whites selected the IFP in May 1993, the figure had increased to nine percent.

The AVF and the Conservative Party [CP] together received only 14 percent (seven per cent for each)—a decline of three percent from six months ago when the CP alone garnered 17 percent.

The ANC still mustered only two percent of white support.

Among metropolitan blacks the ANC received the most votes—76 percent. The Pan Africanist Congress came in second with four percent, followed by a tie among the NP, IFP and SA Communist Party with two percent each.

Among whites, Mr de Klerk maintained his position with 47 percent support. Second was Mr Buthelezi with 11 percent.

Mr Mandela's support among Whites increased marginally to four percent (up from three percent in May).

Gen Viljoen made some impact on the white electorate with 10 percent choosing him as their leader. Among Afrikaans-speaking whites this figure was 16 percent.

The poll was conducted among 800 Whites nationally and 1,000 Blacks in metropolitan areas during October/November this year.

Student Group Pledges Election Support to ANC*MB0712164193 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1258
GMT 07 Dec 93*

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 7 SAPA—The South African Students Congress [Sasco] on Tuesday said it would support the African National Congress [ANC]-led alliance in the April 27 elections next year to ensure victory for the ANC. Sasco has members from other political organisations other than the ANC.

Sasco President Nela Mashapa told a Johannesburg news conference on Tuesday this decision, taken unanimously by the organisation at its recent congress, would not alienate Sasco members who were not ANC supporters. He also said Sasco would engage in an intensive voter education campaign at educational institutions and in rural areas. "We will make sure it is the democratic right of all our people to vote."

Embassies Send Protest Note to Mandela Over Aircraft Deal*MB0712122293 Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans
5 Dec 93 p 2*

[Report by De Wet Potgieter]

[Text] A serious question mark hangs over the Thebe Investment Corporation's announcement, this past week, that the black-controlled investment company will establish a domestic air service with a Canadian consortium. The announcement on the air service, SA [South Africa] Express, SAX, has even caught certain international businessmen unawares. They were still under the impression that they were part of negotiations to supply their aircraft to the air service. Thebe Investments has close ties with the African National Congress, ANC, and both Mr. Nelson Mandela and Mr. Walter Sisulu, leader and deputy leader of the ANC respectively, serve on this organization's board of trustees.

Protest Note

RAPPORT has been confidentially informed that the French and Italian embassies have sent a joint note of protest to Mr. Mandela on behalf of their governments, to express France and Italy's disappointment with the

way in which the entire matter was handled. The French and Italian Governments are especially unhappy about the fact that the ATR passenger aircraft tender was not accepted, without any written notice being issued on the decision. The ATR's are jointly manufactured by France's state controlled Aerospace and Italy's Alien. Thebe's managing director, Mr. Vusi Khanyile, and a Canadian businessman, Mr. Bill de Luce, announced at a news conference in Johannesburg that SAX will now purchase Canadian De Havilland planes. Mr. de Luce is the owner of 37 De Havillands and has close ties with Bombardier, the manufacturer of De Havillands in Canada. After Mr. de Luce and a consortium approached Thebe with a proposal to establish such a service in South Africa, it received permission from Thebe to not only establish the air service, but also to purchase the planes and to arrange for financing. A director of Thebe reportedly insisted that other products on the international market also be looked at before a final decision was made on the De Havillands.

Negotiations

After this Mr. de Luce held talks with, among other companies, Aerospace in Paris. Mr. de Luce is the largest private owner of De Havilland planes in the world. Although the ATR and the De Havilland passenger aircraft use the same DASH8-100 engines, the French-Italian ATR's have more seats than the Canadian planes. Mr. de Luce told RAPPORT on Friday that he has been involved in this type of business for more than 25 years and that extensive research was done before any decisions were made, concerning the purchase of planes. The best deal was made by the De Havilland manufacturer. He denied that any person received commission for the transaction. The purchasing of the De Havillands is jointly financed by a Canadian state-controlled financial institution, Export Development Corporation, and by Bombardier Capital, the financial arm of the De Havilland manufacturer, Bombardier.

UK Overseas Development Minister Discusses Economic Growth

MB0812141293 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1316
GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 8 SAPA—Millions of South Africans are living below the poverty line and the trend could only be reversed by sustained economic growth, British Minister for Overseas Development Baroness Lynda Chalker said on Wednesday. She made the remarks at a function where she presented Operation Hunger with a half a million rand for its feeding programme in the Orange Free State.

Baroness Chalker said the number of people living below the poverty line was growing daily. "This trend can only be reversed through sustained economic growth and sound development policies aimed at assisting the poorest groups," she said when she presented the cheque

to Operation Hunger's executive director, Mrs Ina Perlman. She added that in the meantime relief organisations would have a key role to play in providing emergency relief.

The British grant followed an urgent appeal for assistance from the organisation.

DP Announces Campaign for Democratic Final Constitution

MB0912092693 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0848
GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] Cape Town Dec 9 SAPA—The Democratic Party [DP] on Thursday announced a "Write it Right" campaign for a fully democratic constitution for South Africa.

It is aimed at strengthening in-puts for the DP to try to secure a final constitution which liberal democrats would consider an improvement on the interim one.

The campaign—revealed by party leader Dr Zach de Beer and top DP negotiators Colin Eglin, Ken Andrew and Tony Leon—is to be a central part of the DP's election drive for the April 27 poll.

Dr de Beer said the campaign, coming hard on the heels of a series of DP successes in the multi-party negotiation process, was aimed at "rewriting a set of major flaws that remain in the interim constitution thanks to NP [National Party]/ANC [African National Congress] agreements".

Key changes for which the DP would fight are:

- stronger provincial powers for real federalism;
- two ballots to give voters the right to choose on national and regional level; and
- no further amnesty for "political" criminals beyond October 8 1990, so as to secure South Africa's streets from killers and thugs.

The DP believes the new constitution will bring full democracy only if it is strongly federal and upholds individual freedom and justice.

A party statement continues: "The DP intends to beef up the powers of the provinces in the final constitution. We will campaign for provincial fiscal powers independent of central government and an extensive reduction of the central government's power to override provincial decisions."

The DP further intends ensuring that the constitution puts power into the hands of the voters and not the party bosses. "We will reverse the undemocratic single-ballot decision, introducing separate ballot papers for provincial and federal elections."

The party will also strive to ensure that voters and not parties directly determine who will represent them by

introducing multi-member constituencies combined with proportional representation to provide accountability along with proportionality.

"And we are determined to fight hard to ensure that there is no further amnesty for 'political' criminals. Any extension of the indemnity cut-off date beyond October 8 1990 would be a grave injustice, pardoning murderers and torturers who committed their deeds well after a political settlement was reached. It would seriously undermine the new bill of rights."

Dr de Beer said he was confident, from the DP's track record in negotiations, that the "Write it Right" campaign could be won and appealed for massive public support for the campaign. "The election is an opportunity for every South African to have a big say in determining the content of the final constitution."

The DP would vote for the interim constitution during next week's parliamentary sitting as it "goes a long way towards achieving our constitutional vision for South Africa".

The constitution was a "victory for the Liberal Democrats of the Democratic Party and its predecessors who have worked so hard to make it happen".

Media Workers Association Critical of New SABC Appointments

MB0912080293 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2246 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 8 SAPA—The Media Workers Association of South Africa [MWASA] said on Wednesday that broadcast experience and a track record of impartiality in the handling of news were definitely not a consideration in recent senior appointments at the South African Broadcasting Corporation [SABC].

MWASA was reacting to the appointment of SUNDAY NATION Editor Zwelakhe Sisulu, former ANC [African National Congress] radio station employee Solly Moekette and ANC activist and media trainer Govin Reddy. "The SABC is a public broadcaster which recently underwent public scrutiny in an effort to depoliticise its role and transform it from a state to public broadcaster," MWASA Acting President Mathata Tsedu said in a statement.

Mr Tsedu said the appointments seemed to negate this entire effort and MWASA was concerned about the effects and implications of this trend on the long-term viability of the SABC.

Azapo Critical of Appointments

MB0912134693 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1100 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] Azapo [Azanian People's Organization] has criticized three recent senior appointments at the SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation]. Spokesman

Gomolemo Mokae says, in his words, those imitating the National Party's partisan use of the SABC at the expense of objectivity and non-partisanship will be the unwitting architects of their own destruction.

Mokae says the appointments of Zwelakhe Sisulu, Govin Reddy, and Solly Moekette, all reportedly ANC [African National Congress] sympathizers, are a product of what he calls the multiparty negotiations' undemocratic process. Mokae brands the SABC as a catalyst for what he calls an obscene marriage of convenience between a minority regime and a former liberation movement. Mokae says it is easier for a camel to get through the eye of a needle than it is for Azapo activities to get fair media coverage from the SABC.

South African Press Review for 9 Dec

MB0912140393

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

ANC, Government Denigrate Police—"The ANC [African National Congress] alliance has succeeded in denigrating the police to the point that nothing they do—including their new emphasis on community service—pleases the alliance or ensures that the alliance accepts their bona fides," notes the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 7 December. The government too, "has done little to defend the impartiality and competence of the police." The government has allowed the ANC to join the police in probing incidents such as the killing of ANC Deputy President Walter Sisulu's bodyguard. "Such interference with normal police investigations would be considered outrageous in any other country."

Warning Against TEC Vehicle for ANC-Government Compromise—Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 8 December in its page 6 editorial remarks on the first sitting of the Transitional Executive Council, TEC, on 7 December, saying "the row about the functions of the TEC has flared up again." ANC Secretary General Cyril Ramaphosa warns President de Klerk is indulging in "a 'little bit of wishful thinking'" if he believes the TEC is merely an advisory body. But THE CITIZEN says: "What the TEC must not become is another vehicle for government-ANC compromise and agreement as happened in the Negotiating Council. Mr Meyer and Mr Ramaphosa are again chief representatives in the TEC of their respective sides. We had intended to refer to them as adversaries, except that, after their bosberaads [bush summits] and bilaterals, they appeared to be close collaborators and friendly decision-makers rather than opponents."

THE STAR

Call To Retain ISU in Townships—"Judge Richard Goldstone has wisely rejected calls for the total withdrawal of the Internal Stability Unit (ISU) from East

Rand townships," begins a page 22 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 9 December. "Whatever the deficiencies of the ISU, it is uniformed, visible and has a definite chain of command—now subject to the scrutiny of the Transitional Executive Council." "The SAP [South African Police], including the ISU, is the only force able to check the descent into anarchy. South Africans of all political persuasions must work for its transformation into a more acceptable, more efficient and politically neutral force."

BUSINESS DAY

Criticism of Internal Stability Unit Members' Conduct—Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 9 December in a page 6 editorial says the Goldstone Commission's view that the SAP's Internal Stability Unit should not be withdrawn from the East Rand townships "appears reasonable" until the commission says it cannot comment on criticisms of the conduct of some members of the unit. "As long as the commission fails to consider the behaviour of the unit's members, there is no justification for the smug reaction of the police, suggesting that criticisms from the ANC can be dismissed as political posturing."

Only 'Slap on the Wrist' for Right Wingers—"Farcical it may have been, and more symbolic than serious, but the brief occupation of Fort Schanskop near the Voortrekker Monument cannot be dismissed with a smile because no blood was spilled," says a second editorial on the same page. Charging the right wingers with trespassing and giving them a 100 rand fine "does nothing to quell suspicions that right-wing lawbreakers face nothing more than a slap on the wrist." "De Klerk's crackdown should ensure that right-wingers who break the law, and especially the ringleaders, greet the new South Africa from behind prison bars."

SOWETAN

Concern at 'Political Appointments' at SABC—The "seeming political appointments" at the South African Broadcasting Corporation "are cause for grave concern" to Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 9 December in a page 12 editorial. "With the appointment of three senior journalists who have decided links with the ANC—Zwelakhe Sisulu, Solly Mokhoetle and Govin Reddy—the warning bells are beginning to ring. We are reminded of the manner in which the apartheid regimes took over this medium and landed the country in the kind of mess we have to repair today." "We will perhaps not be able to stop the ANC from making such appointments, but they must surely remind themselves of the chaos caused by apartheid governments who used the media for their single-minded pursuit of a flawed political programme."

CAPE TIMES

ANC 'Political Interference' at SABC—Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 7 December in a page 8 editorial says "there are signs that political interference

in the corporation's presentation of news may continue under a new and possibly ANC-dominated government." "Switching the official slant from NP [National Party] to ANC would make objectivity equally elusive, and reinforce distrust of the SABC as a purveyor of truth." "If the ANC, with members already occupying key positions including the board chairmanship, merely intends taking over where the NP left off, nothing in principle will have changed."

*Project Launched for Emerging Black Businesses

94AF0025A Cape Town THE ARGUS in English
2 Sep 93 p 18

[Text] JOHANNESBURG—Thousands of new black-owned small businesses will be launched in the next 12 months under a special multimillion-rand programme announced in Johannesburg.

The initiative, designed to speed the flow of budding black businessmen into the economic mainstream and unleash the potential of black enterprise, was revealed at the annual general meeting of the Small Business Development Corporation [SBDC].

SBDC managing director Dr Ben Vosloo, anxious to make the 1990s the "Decade of the Entrepreneur", estimated the number of new black-owned micro business ventures in the pipeline at no fewer than 12,500.

The new jobs that would be created when recruitment started, he said, would underline that black enterprise was a key factor in finding solutions to the worst recession on record and setting the economy on a new course.

More than R[ands]88 million in new investments had been specifically earmarked for a Pioneer Project Fund that would concentrate on grassroots initiatives by black entrepreneurs seeking a chance to start mini-companies of their own.

The scale of the operation was limited only by a chronic shortage of funds.

All R60 million allocated to the SBDC by Finance Minister Derek Keys in the 1993 Budget would be ploughed into the exercise—plus R28 million from the corporation's own resources.

Dr Vosloo confirmed that the project—an additional layer to the normal SBDC programme of action—had the full support of the National Economic Forum and community-based non-government organisations engaged in socio-economic reform and job creation.

Some R62 million would be devoted to mini-loans to give newcomers a kick-start and encourage more partnerships with bigger companies as sub-contract suppliers of components and services.

Also, R26 million would be ploughed into support services for fledgling mini-ventures trying to find a foothold in the business world.

It was envisaged that a whole new nationwide network of "industrial hives" would be created at community level to provide low-rental workshops and back-up services.

At least 152 disadvantaged communities would benefit from 60 "business clinics" that would be set up to diagnose hiccups at the start of fledgling business operations—and seek remedies to any problems encountered at teething time.

Also, thousands of school-leavers unable to find jobs in the formal sector would be formed into a volunteer corps that offered the chance of on-the-job skills training and basic management experience inside new mini-businesses that had already paved the way to success.

Dr Vosloo said the programme promised to double the number of new jobs created by the SBDC every year and push the grand total of new employment opportunities opened up by the corporation since it was founded 12 years ago to well above 400,000.

Angola

UN Envoy Convenes Session To Discuss Cease-Fire

MB0812201693 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Report by Lusaka correspondent]

[Text] [Words indistinct] UN special representative in Angola Alioune Blondin Beye ended the delay. This afternoon, he convened the parties for a plenary session to ratify all the documents produced by the military regarding the first point on the working agenda—the cease-fire and [words indistinct], concerning the withdrawal of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] soldiers, their demilitarization, and confinement, as well as the collection, custody, and storage of their weapons by the United Nations. This plenary session could not discuss all the issues in detail. The negotiators will continue to discuss the same issues tomorrow.

As a matter of fact, everything indicates that it will not be possible to discuss all military issues immediately. Despite this plenary session to ratify [words indistinct] the military commissions have not yet finished their work. So far, they have not reached agreement on the issue of concluding the process of training the Angolan Armed Forces. With regard to the government which supports the return of UNITA generals to the Angolan Armed Forces after the cease-fire comes into effect [words indistinct]. [passage indistinct]

Cease-Fire Reportedly Immminent

LD0812201293 Lisbon RTP Internacional Television in Portuguese 1900 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] and the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA] are about to declare a cease-fire in Angola. Only instead of calling it a cease-fire, they call it an undertaking on the cessation of hostilities throughout the country. A source in Lusaka disclosed this evening that this agreement was concluded just a few hours ago and that all obstacles have been surmounted. RTP understands that the two sides will soon be adjourning the negotiations so that the delegations may spend Christmas at home, and that talks on a political agreement will be resumed in January.

Cease-Fire Deadlock Broken

LD0812234993 Lisbon Radio Renascenca in Portuguese to Europe 2300 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Excerpt] REUTER reports that UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] and the Luanda government have reached agreement in Luanda on the final details of the implementation of a cease-fire. The peace talks have now moved on to the question of the single army and the search for a formula to regulate

the integration of UNITA officers in the future Angolan armed forces. Paulo Juliao reports from Luanda:

[Juliao] The Angolan Government and UNITA are continuing their endeavors in search of a solution for the process of unifying the Angolan Armed Forces. With the cease-fire deadlock already broken, the big question now is the timing of the reintegration of the UNITA generals into the Angolan Army. A source close to the negotiations said today that UNITA is making the return of its officers to the completion of the selection of those of its troops that are to join the unified armed forces, and to the completion of the demobilization of the remainder. The same source added that, with this attitude, UNITA wants to reassure its men that they will not be deserted. However, Luanda takes the opposite view and wants the immediate return of the generals. Luanda views with suspicion any delays in the return of the UNITA generals to the Angolan Armed Forces, because from the government's standpoint this would mean that UNITA is keeping its general staff in place. [passage omitted]

*Armed Forces Seek To Recruit More Soldiers

94P50016A Lisbon PUBLICO in Portuguese 14 Oct 93 p 42

[Article by Aguiar dos Santos in Luanda]

[Excerpt] Following a first unsuccessful attempt to incorporate 30,000 new recruits in the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA) by July, the Ministry of Defense yesterday decreed the mobilization of youths born between 31 Jan and Dec 1974. [passage omitted]

Under increasing pressure from MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] circles and public opinion in the face of repeated failures during the so-called offensive against Huambo, Joao de Matos [FAA chief of the General Staff] and his generals announced the need to substantially increase the number of FAA troops—calculated at 60,000 men—to consolidate the few positions recaptured from UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola].

A FAA officer, serving on the Benguela front, the rear-guard offensive against Huambo, told PUBLICO that, besides logistic problems, government forces face "a shortage of frontline troops to consolidate positions to the enemy's rear." Even though UNITA troops face the same problem, the officer confirmed that the FAA "have not yet consolidated any positions in Huambo territory," and admitted that the FALA [Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] advance post in Chinjenje had been bombed by government planes without results. The same source recognized that the cease-fire decreed by UNITA on 20 Sep in Cuito was beneficial to both sides. "If UNITA took advantage of the cease-fire to resupply its troops, the FAA also did not remain idle," he added.

The considerable shortage of men to cover the eight military fronts led Minister of Defense General Pedale to admit that the FAA "could afford to have more than

100,000 men" if the war continues for an indeterminate period of time. According to the ministry, the Armed Forces "are close to reaching this number," and may have even more, not including the civil defense volunteer forces. [passage omitted]

Botswana

Foreign Minister Comments on Ties With Israel

MB0812140993 Gaborone Radio Botswana Network in English 1110 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] The minister for foreign affairs, Dr. Gaositwe Chiepe, says Botswana and Israel resumed diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level yesterday. Briefing Parliament on international issues yesterday, Dr. Chiepe said the decision was made by government following the latest developments in the Middle East. She said the signing of the Israel-PLO Accord on 13 September, which laid the basis for the adoption of principles on interim self-government arrangements for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, gives Botswana hope for a lasting solution to the Middle East question.

On Mozambique Dr. Chiepe said the situation had sufficiently stabilized with a hope for national reconciliation and reconstruction after next year's UN supervised elections. She said it was encouraging to note that the cease-fire is holding and the UN Peace Keeping Force, which includes a Botswana contingent, is fully in place and ready to carry out its mandate.

On Angola, Dr. Chiepe said the tragedy that has befallen the people of that country continues unabated as Savimbi and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] continue to defy the international community and the rest of the Angolan people following the 1992 general elections. She said thousands of Angolans are dispersed, maimed and killed daily by the continued war, while thousands more are exposed to malnutrition, disease and other calamities as they flee to safety.

On South Africa Dr. Chiepe said the adoption and signing of the interim constitution and the constitutional principles and fundamental rights is an assurance of a democratic government in that country early next year. She said the new political dispensation has the [word indistinct] to accomplish the interests and aspirations of all South Africans irrespective of the color of their skin. She added that Botswana reiterates her belief in unity in South Africa and finds it unfortunate that some people still think of partitioning the country under bantustanism.

Dr. Chiepe also told Parliament that the Organization of African Unity heads of state summit, held in Cairo in June this year, approved the Council of Ministers recommendation on the obligations to the OAU for two successive years. She said the summit also approved a recommendation to establish a body that will deal with

conflict prevention and peace-making, with the UN being called in when the need arises for peace-keeping.

Malawi

Opposition Suspends Talks, Urges Strike

EA0812192593 Blantyre Malawi Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Opposition parties in the National Consultative Council, NCC, have suspended negotiations with the government on transitional talks and threatened mass action if their demand for a legal provision of an interim or acting president in the event of the incumbent president's death or incapacitation is not met by noon this Friday [10 December]. The resolution is a reaction to government's rejection of the demand made by NCC to repeal sections 13, 14 and 15 [of the constitution] which provide for an appointment of the Presidential Council. The government stated that such an issue was not within the legal framework of the NCC.

Addressing a press conference in Blantyre, the current chairman of the NCC, Mr. (Fred Ncheula), said the opposition views the government's response as unreasonable and a total breach of the NCC act. Mr. (Ncheula) said during an NCC meeting yesterday, the opposition resolved that people should demonstrate their fundamental democratic right by a peaceful stayaway from work for three days from Monday next week, December the 13th. Justifying the action, Mr. (Ncheula) said the government has shown intransigence in translating the result of the referendum. He also said the opposition is calling on all Malawians to observe a national day of prayer on Sunday in memory of the 23 people who lost their lives since the Mzuzu incident.

Mozambique

Renamo Troops Not Confined in Central, Southern Regions

MB0812174493 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1600 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] The Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] has not yet begun to confine its troops in central and southern Mozambique. This was revealed by the UN Operations Technical Unit. The source said the government has already done so by sending 101 men to the Caia confinement center in Sofala Province. Both sides confined a total of 3,278 troops from 1-7 December.

The government has confined 2,605, while Renamo has only confined 673 men. The government has already confined troops in 11 centers, with most troops being found in Namialo, Nampula Province; while Renamo confined troops in three areas, with most troops being found in Mavago, Niassa Province.

Further on Confinement Process

MB0912101393 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] (Mohamed Nur), regional commander of the UN Operations in Mozambique, has said more than 1,700 government and Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] soldiers have been confined in assembly points by 7 December in northern Mozambique. He said the government confined 1,129 soldiers in Namialo, Nampula Province, and Montepuez in Cabo Delgado Province, and Renamo only confined 673 men in Mavago, Niassa Province. By yesterday, in Inhambane Province, southern Mozambique, 413 government soldiers had been confined in Massinga District, according to Nitrogenio Tembe, head of the provincial Supervision and Control Commission of the General Peace Accord. Nitrogenio Tembe noted that the confinement process in this province is running at a satisfactory rhythm despite some difficulties in the transportation of soldiers to the assembly points. Radio Mozambique in Inhambane has reported that in areas destined for Renamo, this movement has not yet begun confining its forces and the reasons have not been revealed. Four assembly points have been chosen and approved for confining government and Renamo troops in Inhambane Province.

Renamo Reportedly Refuses To Hand Over Weapons

MB0912092793 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 0800 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] The Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] is not handing over its weapons to the UN Operations in Mozambique in the Mavago assembly point in Niassa Province, where 325 men have already assembled. The NOTICIAS newspaper learned yesterday in the aforementioned assembly point that the Renamo soldiers have not handed over their weapons because they did not receive orders from their leaders. Part of the soldiers confined in the assembly point are under 18 years.

Defense Ministry To Receive Higher Budget Share

MB0812190693 Maputo MEDIAFAX in Portuguese 8 Dec 93 p 1

[Unattributed article: "Budget Gives Priority to Defense"]

[Text] The Defense and Security department will continue to be the major drain of public resources in 1994, according to the State General Budget (OGE) draft to be presented to the Assembly of the Republic this week.

The department, including expenses for the demobilization subsidies and the formation of the new army, will consume 453 million contos, which represent about 35 percent of the scheduled amount. Even though, without additional factors, the amount to be allocated to the Defense Ministry corresponds to an 8 percent decrease.

Other OGE Numbers:

- expected revenues: 1.107 million contos.
- taxes on goods and services represent 50 percent of the total fiscal revenue.
- customs duty represents 30 percent of the revenue.
- fiscal revenues will grow in real terms by 5 percent.
- current expenditure: 1,303 million contos.
- investment expenditure: 1,211 million contos.
- the salary fund grows by 15 percent.
- the expenses in investment grow by 16 percent.

The Finance Ministry will try to attain a real growth in Gross Domestic Product [GDP] of 5.5 percent and a reduction of the inflation rate to less than 18 percent.

As compared to 1993, the government expects the GDP to increase by 5.6 percent, following the growth attained in the agricultural sector, trade, and transport. The document states that it is expected that inflation in December will reach a rate of 30 percent. Independent sectors are skeptical over this indicator since, as they pointed out, the devaluation of the metical this year has already reached 66 percent and may reach 72 percent by 31 December.

Only 45 percent of the OGE is covered by the current revenue, while the remaining amount is covered by external resources, namely the sponsoring of investment projects and the use of counterpart funds.

In the 1993 OGE, 12 million contos were allocated to the National Defense Ministry to pay debts; 7.5 million contos to repair barracks for military training; and 20 million contos to pay compensation to Manuel Bulhosa and other share holders from the SONAREP (current Mozambican National Petroleum Enterprise) [expansion unknown].

Renamo Criticizes UN's Ajello Role in Peace Process

MB1611053793 Maputo MOCAMBIQUE NOVOS TEMPOS in Portuguese Sep 93 p 1

[Editorial]

[Text] At the recent multiparty meeting of bad memory, when Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] proposed that the United Nations establish a joint team with Renamo, the government, and other parties, it was requesting Aldo Ajello to accept his responsibilities in Mozambique, the principal one being that fair and impartial elections are supervised and guaranteed.

We were amazed when we heard the UN secretary general representative answering, in unison with the

Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo], that it was not up to him or the UN Operations in Mozambique to interfere in these issues.

This is a frivolous statement, because in line with the spirit and letter of the General Peace Accord signed in Rome, the role of "supreme judge" of the transitional process in Mozambique—particularly concerning elections on which the future of all Mozambicans depends—was given to the United Nations.

Indifferent to this crucial "human factor," Aldo Ajello chose to insist on the fulfillment of timetables and even filed not-so-detailed reports to New York (in which Renamo's reasons were not mentioned), causing the Security Council to renew its pressure for elections to be held in October 1994, come what may.

In Renamo's interpretation, this attitude means that Ajello (once more in agreement with Frelimo), believes timetables are above human lives, above a minimum of justice and equality, and above a future of true democracy.

It might be appropriate to point out to the UN secretary general's representative that Renamo believes deadlines are to serve people and not to enslave them.

All this political promiscuity, this disregard for the fate of Mozambicans, was clearly evident in Ajello's comments, when he said the United Nations "wants to see progress in the Mozambican peace process and awaits reports on the swearing-in of the National Elections Commission". In other words, on the one hand, the United Nations "does not interfere" in the multiparty meeting, when it is a matter of resolving a deadlock, but on the other hand it permits unacceptable forms of interference and pressure on Renamo and all other parties, except the one that is still regarded as the "proprietor" of Mozambique.

Mr. Ajello is not bothered by the fact that emerging parties do not want to be swallowed up by the government and has the cheek to try to blackmail them with funds earmarked for them by the United Nations.

What kind of impartiality and neutrality is it when a sword is placed over the heads of political parties trying to emerge from a totalitarian state in which Frelimo plays an overdominant role—something that still characterizes Mozambique?

Mr. Aldo Ajello should realize that today there are no UN or government "deadlines" [preceding word in English] that can stand on their own without Renamo's consent. In view of the crucial aspect and the reason d'être of our struggle—democracy—we will not renounce our unwavering stance in view of gross tactics, wherever they come from.

If the government intends to stage a farce, then instead of the Military Club or Hotel Rovuma, it should opt for

the Avenida Theater and charge for tickets to interested spectators, with an invitation kindly accepted by Aldo Ajello.

Renamo is not an spectator in this process, and it is not in Mozambique to add some laudable lines to Ajello's resume. Renamo is the main spring of democracy and will never be a party to criminal irresponsibility, intellectual dishonesty, or paternalism of a neocolonial flavor.

ANC's Thabo Mbeki Arrives in Maputo 8 Dec

MB0812184993 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1500 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] African National Congress [ANC] President Thabo Mbeki [title as heard: bureau records show him as ANC international affairs head] arrived in Maputo this morning for a brief visit to Mozambique, within the framework of regular contacts between the Mozambican Government and the ANC. The ANC delegation, which also includes ANC Deputy Secretary General Jacob Zuma, held talks with a Mozambican delegation. The delegations examined issues of common interest, notably the negotiating process in South Africa and the implementation of the General Peace Accord in Mozambique. Thabo Mbeki is also expected to be received by President Joaquim Chissano before returning to Johannesburg today.

***Dhlakama Experiences Image, Support Problems**

94AF0027A Lisbon O INDEPENDENTE in Portuguese 5 Nov 93 p 2

[Article by L.C.: "Dhlakama Under Examination"; first paragraph is O INDEPENDENTE introduction]

[Text] The North Americans are preparing to examine Afonso Dhlakama, candidate and statesman. The test will take place in Portugal, at the American Club, at the end of this month, and it promises to be rigorous. Washington's future relationship with the Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] will depend greatly on the grade the examiners give Dhlakama.

Afonso Dhlakama is coming to Lisbon and on 27 November he will speak at the American Club, a very exclusive organization whose members are North American diplomats and former diplomats with major ties to the Portuguese-speaking African countries.

As one of the sponsors of the meeting stressed, "In addition to the lecture, the Renamo leader will have to respond to a series of specific questions concerning economic and financial options, to which trite answers will not be sufficient.

Only after this "examination" in Lisbon and after the resulting reports are forwarded to Washington will the American authorities be disposed to review their position regarding the Renamo and to attribute the status of "statesman" to Afonso Dhlakama.

The U.S. administration's traditional distrust of the Renamo dates back to President Reagan. In his recently published memoirs, Chester Crocker, former assistant secretary for African affairs in the Bush administration, voices unusual admiration for the Maputo government's diplomacy, accompanied by effusive praise for the "subtlety" of methods.

Renamo in Crisis

According to those who analyze guerrilla movements, the Renamo is experiencing a crisis which—to the more pessimistic—is a "crisis of awareness" and—to the optimists—a "crisis of growth."

The press remains impervious to the seduction of Afonso Dhlakama, the international financing promised to the organization has not been forthcoming, the demobilization is not yet in sight, the party is as yet unstructured, and the president of the Renamo increasingly emerges as an isolated individual in a whole political-military organization that is falling apart.

If, for example, we are to believe the LETTRE DE L'OCEAN INDIEN, a French bulletin with restricted circulation, two of the principal individuals in the power structure, Vicente Ululo and Raul Domingos, are increasingly critical of Dhlakama's negotiating positions.

According to the same sources, ethnic and tribal conflicts are breaking out again. There is the case of Vicente Ululo, secretary general of the Renamo, who is of Maconde origin and who, irony of ironies, is also a relative of the defense minister in the Maputo regime.

Under the terms of the Rome agreement, Vicente Ululo resides permanently in Lisbon and his home near the bay is a regular gathering place for members of the Maconde ethnic group, almost all of whom are in the military structures of the Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] and cadres in the Office of the Presidency of the Republic, such as General Pachinuapa. In short, Afonso Dhlakama fears that Ululo's traditional discretion and "moderation" could give rise to a type of Maconde lobby that could put the secretary general's loyalty to Renamo's priorities into question.

The longer Afonso Dhlakama stays away from Maputo, the more difficult the relationship will be between the guerrilla leader and his operatives, who will be increasingly disposed to negotiate and to arrive at quick compromises with the "enemy."

There are those who even feel that if Afonso Dhlakama decided at this point to go back to war, it is unlikely that his guerrillas would go along with him. Obviously, the same is true of the willingness of the Frelimo troops to resume the conflict.

Regarding weaknesses, there is also the case of Raul Domingos, the "rude" and difficult negotiator at the Rome peace talks; in many circles he is thought to be solely and exclusively the arm of the South African

regime in the Renamo, an arm that Dhlakama would have a difficult time amputating.

More Stalemates

The peace process continues at a standstill, despite the recent attention given to it by UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali. The crux of the problem remains the same: the military demobilization. This time there are disagreements between the government of Joaquim Chissano and the Renamo concerning the definition of irregular forces, which the peace agreement stipulates must be disbanded. As long as the impasse persists, it will be difficult to initiate the roundup of the troops on both sides, which is scheduled for the end of this month.

According to Labor Minister Teodato Hunguana, the Maputo government considers it "essential" that the Renamo provide a count of its irregular forces at the same time the authorities do so. However, Raul Domingos, speaking for Dhlakama's movement, does not admit to having any irregular forces.

"It is something they invented," Domingos told the Portuguese news agency LUSA. The "majibas" [spies for the Renamo], whom the government considers to be Renamo irregulars, "were not armed" and in short were simply informers and guides who lived in the zones then controlled by the guerrillas.

Hunguana, who is the government's number-two man on the Supervision and Control Commission, plays on the words. He says that the Renamo declares that it has already demobilized its irregulars, which means that it has them after all. Incidentally, it was Dhlakama himself who demanded the dismantling of the irregular forces as a counterpart to the roundup and confinement of his troops, which makes the situation even more ridiculous.

*Article Views Renamo Support, Frelimo Election Strategy

94AF0027B Lisbon O DIABO in Portuguese
3 Nov 93 p 12

[Text] The Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] government is not sure it will be able to win the elections in October 1994 if the latter are, in fact, free and fair. The biggest factor in the Frelimo's uncertainty is the real support that the Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] enjoys in four key provinces (Manica, Sofala, Zambezia, and Nampula), where 60 percent of the population lives.

The Frelimo, suffering from the association that is instinctively made between its administration and the dark phase in the nation's life in the years following independence, not only fears the so-called protest vote, which will naturally penalize it, but also the ethnic and religious vote, neither of which will favor it.

From the ethnic standpoint, the great tribes of the four provinces identify more strongly with the Renamo than with the Frelimo. In recent weeks there have been

reports of some initiatives discreetly undertaken by the Frelimo, seeking, for example, to exploit rivalries between N'daus and Senas, the two tribes in Manica and Sofala Provinces identified as Renamo supporters.

Regarding religion, whereas the population of Manica and Sofala, predominantly Catholic, "follow" Dom Jaime Goncalves, archbishop of Beira, who has clear Renamo connotations, the Muslims of Nampula and Zambezia Provinces are structurally anti-Frelimo—as, incidentally, are other communities of the same religion in the south of the country.

The conflict between the Islamic communities of Mozambique and the Frelimo, which persists to this day, has more remote origins in the revolutionary excesses of the post-independence years, marked by the occupation and seizure of mosques, which in many cases came to be used for purposes that were anything but orthodox (namely, as pigsties).

To turn this electoral disadvantage around, the Frelimo until very recently favored the strategy of postponing the elections. The objective was to gain time to regroup. On the other hand, a delay in the process would affect the Renamo, given its shortage of resources and other internal vulnerabilities.

However, since the international community is indicating its unwillingness to go along with this strategy (alleging that the financial resources allocated to the peace process will be completely drained by October 1994), the Frelimo now seems to be wagering on actions to divide and destabilize the Renamo, to undermine it.

There is the example of the enticements that have been offered by members of the Renamo's foreign representation (in the United States, Germany, Kenya, etc.), along with seductive actions that have also served to demobilize political and economic circles that have supported the Renamo in the past.

Another vector of the Frelimo's anti-Renamo strategy consists in the manipulation or even the promotion of recently created parties, which are being subtly used in anti-Renamo maneuvers. Recently, four of these parties, the Monamo [Mozambique Nationalist Movement], the FAP [Patriotic Action Front], the PCN [National Convention Party], and the FUMO [Mozambique United Front], were accused by eight other parties of playing the Frelimo's game.

The Monamo and the FUMO are led, respectively, by Maximo Dias and Domingos Arouca, both lawyers, who are natives of Mozambique and who, because of their past opposition to the Frelimo, had lived for the past several years in Portugal. They returned to Mozambique following peace gestures by the Frelimo itself, gestures in which even Joaquim Chissano took part.

Zimbabwe

HERALD Reports on President Mugabe Address to Parliament

MB0512082793 Harare THE HERALD in English
26 Nov 93 p 1

[Text] The drought-induced recession has been overcome and the economy is expected to grow by 2 percent in real terms this year with the first benefits of the economic reform programme starting to bear fruits. In his Sixth State of the Nation Address in Parliament yesterday President Mugabe said the drought-induced regional recession which resulted in the Gross Domestic Product falling by 8 percent had been overcome by the good rains. However, the effects of the international recession were still with us.

Inflation

"The inflation rate is expected to drop significantly to 22 percent. This fall in the rate of inflation and anticipated decline in rates will soon provide enough leeway for the creating of a significant turnaround of the economy." The agricultural sector, to which the economy recovery is mainly attributed, Cde [Comrade] Mugabe said, was anticipated to grow by 35 percent. This was enhanced by the Government's assistance to the farming community through the agricultural recovery programme.

"This not only ensured the availability of adequate food for our people but raw material inputs for the agro-based industries." The programme also laid emphasis on live-stock recovery and to date 55 grazing schemes have been constructed and work on 89 new ones is underway.

Cde. Mugabe said this year the Government had acquired 34,300 ha [hectares] of land for \$12.8 million bringing to 3,740,000 ha land acquired since independence at a total cost of \$116.9 million. "It is planned that the resettlement programme be speeded up significantly after the rainy season."

On investment Cde Mugabe said the investment climate had significantly changed mostly because of the introduction of foreign denominated accounts for both residents and non-residents, duty and tax exemptions for capital goods, the opening up of the Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, new investment regulations and additional incentives for direct foreign investments.

The Zimbabwe Investment Centre had this year approved projects worth \$1,628 million with the bulk of the projects in the mining industry. Investment in the manufacturing sector accounted for 33.9 percent while the commercial and agricultural sectors accounted for 8.1 percent and 5.1 percent respectively.

Aware

"Government is fully aware of the need to indigenise the economy and is currently negotiating a number of facilities, among them the World Bank facility of about

US\$30 million (approx \$195 million), the Zimbabwe Development Bank and the PTA [Preferential Trade Area] line of credit to Sedco [Small Enterprises Development Corporation].

"In this regard, special attention is being directed towards development of small to medium-scale enterprises through Sedco." Cde. Mugabe said it had been agreed that Sedco be capitalized to the extent of \$500 million in the next five years. He said the economic reform programme continued despite the transitional social hardships accentuated by last year's drought.

Turning to the effects of the economic reform programme Cde. Mugabe said to cushion the vulnerable groups, \$150 million had been given to the Social Dimensions Fund [SDF] to boost its capital base bringing to \$210 million money so far allocated to that fund.

Education

"...The education sector has in 1993 drawn school fees for 117,000 needy children compared to 20,748 sponsored in 1992. Likewise, examination fees were provided for 15,000 pupils compared to 757 last year."

The SDF has also catered for re-training of 3,227 retrenched workers.

On health, Cde. Mugabe said as the Government continued to lay emphasis on the reduction of morbidity and mortality of people an additional \$560 million had been given for prevention and care of sexually transmitted diseases programme.

On the international arena, the President said Zimbabwe was ready to upgrade its relations with South Africa's and as indicated by lifting of sanctions against that country by almost the whole world.

Cote d'Ivoire**AFP Reports Resignation of Prime Minister Ouattara**

AB0912121593 Paris AFP in English 1207 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] Abidjan, 9 Dec (AFP)—Ivory Coast [Cote d'Ivoire] Prime Minister Alassane Ouattara on Thursday announced his immediate resignation. The announcement came two days after National Assembly Speaker Henri Konan Bedie declared himself head of state after the death of President Felix Houphouet-Boigny.

Ouattara Cabinet Resigns

AB0912132593 Abidjan Radio Cote d'Ivoire Chaine Nationale-Une Network in French 1245 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] A meeting of the government was held this morning at the Prime Minister's Office and was chaired by Prime Minister Alassane Dramane Ouattara. Here is the government communique issued after that meeting. It is read by the secretary general of the government, Mr. Albert Aggrey:

[Begin recording] The government met today Thursday, 9 December at 1100 under the chairmanship of Mr. Alassane Dramane Ouattara, prime minister and head of government. The prime minister informed the government that after calling on the Supreme Court on 8 December to rule on a power vacuum in the presidency of the Republic, the government of President Felix Houphouet-Boigny ceases its functions as of today, Thursday, 9 December. [end recording]

Bedie Meets Presidential Palace Staff, Appoints Close Aides

AB0912135193 Abidjan Radio Cote d'Ivoire Chaine Nationale-Une Network in French 1245 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] President Henri Konan Bedie had a particularly busy schedule this morning. He first granted audience at his residence to the African diplomatic corps, then held a first contact meeting with the staff of the Presidential Palace. Benjamin Oulai, you covered all these activities by President Henri Konan Bedie.

[Oulai] That is right, Mathieu Akanou. I must point out that the head of state, President Henri Konan Bedie, first held a working session at the Presidential Palace with the staff present there this morning. He then appointed his close aides. The list of these new officials and close aides of the president is read to us by Mr. Yao Kouassi, the new secretary general of the presidency of the Republic:

[Begin recording] During a working session held at the Presidential Palace today, His Excellency Mr. Henri Konan Bedie, president of the Republic, signed a decree appointing the following persons as members of his civilian and military office pending the imminent appointment of a new government:

Secretary General of the Republic,	Kouassi Yao
Permanent undersecretary of the president of the Republic	Jean-Noel Loucou
Director of State Protocol	Ambassador Georges Ouegnin
Economic and Financial Adviser	Aboubacar Diaby Ouattara
General Affairs Adviser	Venance Guessend Konan
Social and Educational Adviser	Gaspard Kouadio Gbaka
Communication Adviser	Jesus Kouassi Yobouet

Lieutenant Colonel Pierre Claver Toure Tieoule has been appointed as the special chief of staff of the president of Republic and military commander of the Presidential Palace. I thank you. [end recording]

Bedie Addresses African Ambassadors

AB0912143493 Abidjan Radio Cote d'Ivoire Chaine Nationale-Une Network in French 1245 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] Today, at his private residence in Cocody district, the president of the Republic, Mr. Henri Konan Bedie, received African ambassadors led by their dean, His Excellency Ould Abdallah of Mauritania. They went to present their condolences to President Henri Konan Bedie, to the Houphouet-Boigny family, and to the entire Ivorian nation. There was an exchange of speeches between President Henri Konan Bedie and the dean of the African ambassadors. First to speak was the dean of African ambassadors, His Excellency Ould Abdallah:

[Begin Abdallah recording] The sorrow and cruel event that has just afflicted the Ivorian people concerns all of Africa. Indeed, President Felix Houphouet-Boigny was a great African in every respect. He devoted his entire life to the cause of the emancipation and dignity of the African. He was also, and in particular, a persevering, relentless, and efficient artisan of the strengthening of bonds of brotherliness and cooperation among African countries so it is natural that all Africans should be mourning the wiseman of Africa since yesterday, in solidarity with their Ivorian brothers. Mr. President, at the time you have started assuming, by virtue of the provisions of your country's Constitution, the highest and important responsibilities as head of state, I would like, in my capacity as dean of our group and on behalf of all my colleagues present here, to express to you our most sincere congratulations and our wishes for full success in your noble mission. Thank you. [end recording]

Here is the response given by the head of state, President Henri Konan Bedie:

[Begin Bedie recording] Ambassadors of African countries, great pains cannot be expressed. This is why, in very few words, I would like to thank you for your visit today. You are paying me this visit in my capacity as president of the Republic. I would like to thank you for associating yourselves as well as the heads of state of the

countries you are representing with the sorrow of the Ivorian nation. I will not fail to convey to Mrs. Therese Houphouet-Boigny, to the great family of President Houphouet-Boigny, to his relatives, and to the Ivorian people the feelings of compassion which you have just expressed.

As soon as the news of the death was announced, we received messages of condolences from the heads of state of the countries you are representing. I would like you to convey to the heads of state of the African countries you are representing in Abidjan all our feelings of gratitude and to tell them how their messages comforted us in these moments of sadness and sorrow.

Your Excellencies, I am aware that you were committed to President Felix Houphouet-Boigny and his African and international beliefs. I am also aware that you were committed to the development of ties of cooperation between your countries and my country Cote d'Ivoire. I can assure you at this time that we will strive, with all our aides and the Ivorian people, to pursue this cooperation between all African people in a harmonious manner, for the strengthening of African unity. Your Excellencies, once again, I want to thank you very sincerely for participating in the sorrow of the nation. [end recording]

Houphouet-Boigny's Family Says Condolences Due Later

AB0912125593 Abidjan Frequence-Deux Radio Network in French 1230 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Communique issued by "Houphouet-Boigny's family" on 9 December; place not given]

[Text] The family of Houphouet-Boigny in Yamoussoukro informs the Ivorian people that contrary to media reports, the presentation of condolences will be organized at a later date that will be indicated in due course. The family offers apologies to our compatriots.

[Abidjan Frequence-Deux Radio Network in French reports in the same newscast that "the presentation of condolences to President Houphouet-Boigny's family began today."]

Developments Before Resignation of Prime Minister

Bedie on 'Agitation'

AB0812201593 Paris AFP in French 1827 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Abidjan, 8 Dec (AFP)—Henri Konan Bedie, who stated yesterday evening that he had succeeded President Felix Houphouet-Boigny—who died a few hours earlier—as the Ivorian head of state, told AFP today that he did not understand "all this agitation concerning the succession."

Since Mr. Bedie made his statement, the controversy over the constitutional succession process has increased within the Ivorian political class.

In his first statement since he "assumed office," Mr. Bedie stressed that "Cote d'Ivoire is a law-abiding country," referring to the Constitution, which designates the speaker of the National Assembly—namely Mr. Bedie—as the "rightful" successor to power in case the head of state dies during his term of office.

"I do not understand all this agitation concerning succession. We are bereaved," he stated.

He also stressed the support that the international community expressed for him, since, he recalled, he is the one to whom the "diplomatic community came" yesterday evening to present its official condolences.

Questioned concerning reports that Prime Minister Alasane Ouattara is reportedly challenging his authority, Mr. Bedie simply answered: "I don't think so."

Mr. Ouattara's aides have relayed his determination not to resign, and to request the Supreme Court's advice on the validity of the manner Mr. Bedie assumed power.

Party Recognizes 'Interim President'

AB0812210093 Paris AFP in French 1755 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Abidjan, 8 Dec (AFP)—Mr. Francis Wodie, leader of the Ivorian Workers' Party (PIT, a leftist opposition party), announced on 8 December that he recognized Mr. Henri Konan Bedie as "interim president" and not as "the new president of the Republic."

"The PIT affirms that today, only the National Assembly speaker is qualified to occupy the post of the president of the Republic on a temporary basis as he, the speaker, has already done," Wodie further said in a press statement.

On 7 December evening following the announcement of President Houphouet-Boigny's death, Mr. Bedie had, on the strength of the Constitution, declared that he was immediately assuming the functions of head of state.

Mr. Wodie is the first Ivorian politician to speak out publicly on the validity of the mandate claimed by Mr. Bedie. His statement came after Prime Minister Alasane Ouattara disclosed—without clearly taking sides on the issue—that he did not intend to resign and that he was referring the matter to the Supreme Court to rule on Mr. Bedie's decision.

For his part, the main opposition leader, Mr. Laurent Gbagbo, secretary general of the Ivorian Popular Front [FPI], in an interview with AFP refused to be drawn into the political row.

Commenting on the rivalry between Mr. Bedie and Mr. Ouattara, he said: "They are two children with the same father. We are just watching them. This is what happens

when power is offered publicly for auction. When it is time to share the cake, they tear each other apart."

"We will not budge. We are giving ourselves time," Gbagbo finally said, recalling that as far as the FPI is concerned, "These people have never conformed with legality."

Political Infighting Occurs

AB0812213093 Paris AFP in English 2030 GMT
8 Dec 93

[By Jean-Pierre Gallois]

[Text] Abidjan, Dec 8 (AFP)—Ivory Coast was plunged into behind-the-scenes political infighting Wednesday [8 December], a day after Henri Konan Bedie rushed to succeed late veteran President Felix Houphouet-Boigny as head of state.

Konan Bedie, who won international backing for his move, cancelled at the last minute a press conference scheduled for late Wednesday morning after what his aides described as a "misunderstanding."

Meanwhile, his main rival Prime Minister Alassane Ouattara declined to say whether he backed or opposed Konan Bedie's appointment, which his aides described as a "takeover."

Members of Konan Bedie's entourage said they expected Ouattara, who informed sources said spent Wednesday morning in meetings with military commanders, to resign in line with with the country's political customs.

But sources close to the government said the premier would "remain in his post," adding that the country's supreme court had convened to pass judgement on the transfer of power.

The government sources said: "Konan Bedie proclaimed himself (leader) without informing the prime minister. Considering himself ignored, (Ouattara) is now ignoring (Konan Bedie)."

But Konan Bedie told AFP late Wednesday. "I do not understand all this agitation about the succession. We are in mourning."

He said he would be "surprised" if Ouattara contested his authority, noting that it was to him that the diplomatic corps had addressed condolences on Houphouet-Boigny's death.

Aides on both sides said the two men had had no contact during the last week.

Konan Bedie, a 59-year-old former diplomat and finance minister, exercised his constitutional right as speaker of the national office to announce he had become head of state after Houphouet-Boigny died Tuesday.

In a television broadcast late Tuesday he said: "The constitution... confers on me... the responsibilities of head of state. I assume these responsibilities now."

He asked all Ivorians to place themselves at his "disposal," a move seen as a call on Ouattara rapidly to present the resignation of his government.

The wall of silence from the two main players extended to Wednesday lunchtime's national television bulletins, which restricted themselves to broadcasting Houphouet-Boigny retrospectives and messages of condolence from the international community.

In an interview with AFP, the secretary general of the governing Democratic Party (PDCI), Laurent Dona-Fologo, who is a known Konan Bedie supporter, said he believed the problem of Houphouet-Boigny's succession had been "resolved" and was "not contestable."

Dona-Fologo said he was "astonished" that the government wanted to declare a "power vacuum."

France, the former colonial power from which Houphouet-Boigny proclaimed independence in August 1960, addressed official condolences to Konan Bedie as the new head of state.

But Konan Bedie's swift move, seen as a bid to forestall a battle for the succession at a time of serious economic crisis, drew a cool response from the opposition and the press.

Both opposition leaders and part of the PDCI, the single ruling party until 1990, challenged the process of succession under which Bedie should serve out the remainder of the presidential term until September 1995.

Laurent Gbagbo, the leader of the main opposition Ivorian Popular Front (FPI) said the new head of state must be "chosen at the polls."

The newspaper LA VOIE, close to the left-wing opposition, said Konan Bedie had not taken over according to democratic rules, while the pro-government Fraternite-Matin daily also distanced itself from the move in similar fashion.

However Francis Wodie, first secretary of the Ivorian Workers' Party (PIT) backed Konan Bedie, the first political leader to do so.

Uncertainty also emerged late Wednesday over the stance of the country's military.

Sources close to Ouattara said the Army had reaffirmed its "loyalty" to the prime minister.

Earlier in the day Konan Bedie supporters had maintained he could count on the "republican legality" of the Army in a show of support from the military.

BBC Views Power Struggle

AB0812230093 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 8 Dec 93

[From the "Focus on Africa" program—hosted by Chris Bickerton]

[Text] Ivory Coast [Cote d'Ivoire] is now in a month's state of mourning following the death of President Houphouet-Boigny. The aging president's death was announced yesterday by Prime Minister Alassane Ouattara, who was believed to have his own presidential aspirations. But under the constitution, the man who has taken over is the speaker of Parliament, Henri Konan Bedie. He was supposed to be giving a press conference this afternoon. Our West Africa correspondent Ofeibea Quist-Arcton is on the line from Abidjan. Ofeibea, did the press conference happen?

[Begin recording] [Quist-Arcton] No, it did not happen. I waited along with other journalists for several hours, then finally they said we are inviting all foreign journalists and the national press. We were told to put our microphones on the table and all of a sudden [words indistinct] is not happening, but if you like, you can offer your condolences to the new president of the Republic. Mr. Bedie did not say a word, he shook our hands and that was that. So we waited for hours and nothing happened. But let me tell you that last night, he moved swiftly to declare himself the new president of the Republic. He said that now President Houphouet-Boigny had died; he was the constitutional successor and he has taken over the responsibilities of a head of state.

[Bickerton] Is this seen as rather an unseemly haste and does everybody agree that he is the president?

[Quist-Arcton] No, certainly not. The prime minister, Alassane Ouattara, is certainly not keeping his arms crossed. We have been in touch with the prime minister's office and they said as far as they are concerned, there is still a political power vacuum, that they have put the matter to the Supreme Court, and that they are waiting for a response from the Supreme Court to confirm who or who is not the head of state. So, the battle for the succession is certainly going on. And you are absolutely right. I mean Houphouet has been dead—what—just over 24 hours, but this battle for the succession has completely taken over. Yesterday, Ivoirians seemed sad and shocked. But now all everyone wants to know is who is in power. As far as foreign governments are concerned though, it seems that Konan Bedie is certainly the new president. As far as France is concerned, the former colonial power, and the main international diplomatic community here, they went to see him yesterday, offered their condolences and he is now being called the interim president of Cote d'Ivoire.

[Bickerton] So, what is Prime Minister Ouattara up to?

[Quist-Arcton] I think they are planning their strategy. As I said, we spoke to the prime minister's office today. Apparently, he held talks with senior military officers—the commander of the Army, the commander of the Air Force, the defense minister, and we were told that they had reaffirmed and confirmed their loyalty to the prime minister. But will they have to wait to see how the battle

between Bedie and Ouattara actually plays itself out. It doesn't look as if it is going to be a very happy occasion here in the Ivory Coast.

[Bickerton] So, it actually sounds as though Prime Minister Ouattara has quite a strong power base. Does Konan Bedie have a power base?

[Quist-Arcton] Konan Bedie certainly has a stronger power base, I would say. And at the moment, it looks as if he has out-manuevered the prime minister. But the although Ouattara was brought in as a sort of international technocrat, he is a World Bank economist, to try and revive the economy in the three years he has been prime minister, he certainly has consolidated his power base. He is a northerner. Many people say, in fact, that he is from Burkina Faso. He is a Muslim, and he has that support. He also has the support of influential members of the ruling PDCI [Democratic Party of Cote d'Ivoire]. But then, on the other hand, Konan Bedie, also has huge support. He comes from the same ethnic group, the Baoule tribe, as President Houphouet and has support. But whichever man does take over, would not be part of the [words indistinct] to deal with a crippled economy, they are going to have to deal with a wave of strikes, they are going to have to deal with social unrest. And I think that is what mainly concerns Ivoirians.

[Bickerton] And what do Ivoirians think about all these happening so soon in the wake of the death of the president?

[Quist-Arcton] I think they are not surprised. You know, this battle for the succession started before Houphouet died. It started even (?long) before he came back after his illness in Europe. And I think people have expected it. Houphouet, lots of people say, well, it's his fault. He did not choose a successor and he did not groom an heir apparent. He has caused this constitutional mess by saying that he was an African chief, a traditional ruler, someone who does not name his successor. He has left Ivory Coast in the mess it is in at the present. I think people, although they feel sorry that he is gone, they feel that may be he should have done more to prepare the transition with his death in the offing. [end recording]

Source: Premier To Remain

AB0812224593 Paris AFP in French 1705 GMT
8 Dec 93

[Text] Abidjan, 8 Dec (AFP)—Ivoirian Prime Minister Alassane Ouattara "remains at his post" and does not contemplate resigning immediately, a source close to the head of government stated in Abidjan today.

The same source abstained from concluding whether Ouattara had recognized the authority of Henri Konan Bedie who, taking the Constitution as his basis, stated yesterday that he had "assumed" the functions of head of state following President Felix Houphouet-Boigny's death yesterday morning.

Mr. Bedie proclaimed himself head of state without informing the prime minister. Feeling that he was ignored, Ouattara also ignores, and therefore remains," it was explained.

This source reaffirmed that the Supreme Court was informed yesterday evening and that it was up to it now to give its decision on the launching of the succession process.

This same source was shocked by the "illegal methods" which, according to him, Mr. Bedie used during his statement on television yesterday evening to announce that he had immediately assumed office as president.

He stated that Mr. Bedie turned up escorted by "several dozen soldiers and forced his way up to the studio, where a television newscast had just begun.

"Many official organizations were shocked" by these methods, the source added.

Questioned on the Army's attitude, this source finally stated that it had reaffirmed its "loyalty" to the prime minister.

Liberia

Peacekeepers Reportedly Kill Three Workers at Monrovia Port

AB0812171593 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 8 Dec 93

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The port of Monrovia in Liberia has been at a standstill for three days. It follows violent incidents involving soldiers of the ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] peacekeeping force and dockers. Three dockers have died and the workers have now downed tools in protest over what they see as high-handed actions by trigger-happy ECOMOG troops. From Monrovia Nii Anarney Allision telexed this report:

The workers were allegedly shot by an ECOMOG naval officer under suspicion of stealing. Two workers died instantly while a third, who was wounded, died later at the Zwedru Hospital on Bushrod Island where the free port is located. After the shootings, port workers laid down their tools and threatened a backlash. When they started throwing stones, ECOMOG soldiers moved in an armored personnel carrier. They were brandishing assault rifles and rocket-propelled grenade launchers, while hand grenades hung down from their jackets. The situation was tense today as the port was cordoned off with ECOMOG soldiers standing around. So far, there has been no word from ECOMOG headquarters on the shooting incident. Monday's incident comes in the wake of several recent killings which have been attributed to ECOMOG soldiers. One involved the death of two money changers in October which the ECOMOG High

Command described as an accident. Another money changer's death is still unresolved.

Mali

PANA Reports Coup Attempt Foiled

AB0912113293 Dakar PANA in English 1126 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] Bamako, 9 Dec (PANA)—The authorities in Mali have foiled a coup attempt which was aimed at physically eliminating many members of government, including President Alpha Oumar Konare, sources told the PAN AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY in Bamako on Thursday.

The sources said the coup was to have taken place on Wednesday. They identified the leader of the coup plotters as Lt. Col. Oumar Diallo, who was the aide de camp of ousted President Moussa Traore. Lt. Col. Diallo, alias "Birus", was also a member of the group [of] soldiers who toppled Traore in March 1991. He was later arrested for embezzlement of funds and detained for four months in Bamako.

According to several sources in Bamako, at least four warrant officers have been arrested along with Lt. Col. Diallo who has been taken to Timbuktu in the north of the country.

Niger

Police Disperse, Arrest Student Demonstrators

AB0812153093 Niamey Voix du Sahel Network in French 1200 GMT 7 Dec 93

[Text] Demonstrating students in Niamey chanting slogans hostile to the government moved toward the prime minister's office yesterday and tried to break the police security cordon by throwing stones and bottles. The police charged and arrested two students. One of the students, who was slightly wounded, was sent to a garrison dispensary in the capital.

This demonstration followed a communique issued yesterday evening by the Union of Niger Schools which denounced the corruption of the ruling coalition government and criticized the World Bank's interference in the country's management.

Nigeria

Daily Reports Clashes in Delta State Between Residents, Police

AB0812161593 Paris AFP in English 1440 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] Lagos, Dec 8 (AFP)—Several people were killed and a dozen more, including three police, are missing after fighting in eastern Nigeria in Delta state between

villagers and police at Ovwian, THE GUARDIAN newspaper reported Wednesday [8 December].

It said a pitched battle broke out when police went there Monday to arrest ringleaders of a suspected plan to set fire to the premises of the Niger Benue Transport Company (NBTC).

The villagers have had a running dispute with the sea freight firm since last May when they unsuccessfully demanded that NBTC repair the village road, which they said company vehicles had damaged.

Threats were made against the firm, which asked police to intervene, and at the end of November villagers briefly kidnapped the NBTC chief and two expatriates working for the company, police said.

A GUARDIAN reporter at the scene said police and village youths were still in entrenched positions along the road, with sporadic gunfire occurring and some buildings on fire.

Government Protests 'Additional' EU Sanctions

*AB0812130693 Lagos Voice of Nigeria in English
1030 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Text] The Nigerian Government has described as unfortunate the decision of the European Union [EU] to impose additional sanctions rather than show understanding on the present political situation in the country. The government, in a statement said that the intervention of the military was necessary to check the drift to anarchy and disintegration which characterized the tenure of the Interim National Government.

The statement said since the intervention, countless efforts have been taken by government to find a permanent resolution to the crisis. One of such steps, according to the statement, is the plan to hold early next year, a transitional conference of elected representatives to determine the nature and characteristics of an enduring constitution for the country.

Information Minister Announces State Military Administrators

AB0812190093 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1500 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] The appointment of state military administrators has been announced. The minister of information and culture, Professor Jerry Gana, announced this today in Lagos at a world news conference. Here now are details of the appointments:

Colonel (E.A. Nwosu), Abia; Group Captain (G. Agbonimi), Adamawa; Colonel (N.E. Attah), Anambra; Lieutenant Colonel Y. Bako, Akwa Ibom; Wing Commander J.Y. Kalao, Bauchi; Group Captain (J.O. Obademi), Benue; Group Captain I. Dada, Borno; Group Captain (I. Kefa), Cross River; Colonel B. Asokoro, Delta; Lieutenant Colonel (N.A.S. Onooka), Edo; Navy Captain T. Ejo; Navy Captain J.J. Aneke, Imo; Colonel (I. Aliyu), Jigawa; Lieutenant Colonel (L.J. Ika), Kaduna; Colonel (M. Wase), Kano; Navy Captain (E. Acholonon), Katsina; Colonel S.T. Bello, Kebi; Colonel (P.U.N. Omerowo), Kogi; Commissioner of Police M. Ismael, Kwara; Colonel O. Oyilola, Lagos; Colonel (C.K. Eninyi), Niger. Lieutenant Colonel (T. Akimbode), Ogu; Lieutenant Colonel (O.M. Turi), Ondo; Commander (A. Edofia), Osun; Navy Captain (A.O. Sode), Oyo; Lieutenant Colonel (A. Numana), Plateau; Lieutenant Colonel D.M. Komo, Rivers; Colonel (Y. Nwazo), Sokoto; Colonel Y. Dixon, Taraba; Commissioner of Police Dabo Aliyuh, Yobe.

The military administrators will be sworn in at the Presidential Villa, Abuja, tomorrow.

Papers on State Administrators, Legality of Abacha Regime

*AB0812163093 Lagos Voice of Nigeria in English
1030 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[From the press review]

[Text] THE PUNCH and the NATIONAL CONCORD report that military administrators and their civilian deputies to govern the 30 states in the country will be published today. Though the CONCORD asks why the Provisional Ruling Council, PRC, failed to meet yesterday to conclude its deliberation on the appointments, it reports that Professor Jerry Gana, Nigeria's information minister, will announce the names and other issues that effect the development of the country.

The paper describes the delay in publishing the names, as a waiting gimmick as Nigerians have been anxious to know those who govern their states of origin. However, THE TRIBUNE and THE PUNCH recall that General Abacha's regime has been challenged in court for dissolving all the democratic institutions put in place by the former military government. Both papers name those who instituted the court action at the Kaduna High Court as Alhaji Abdulai Baikano, Alhaji Sabu Adamu, and Alhaji Tijani Aminu Bakwenje. They are also challenging the legality of the Abacha regime, and the sacking of the former Interim National Government.

THE PUNCH, in particular, reports that 19 January next year has been fixed for the first hearing of the case.

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